

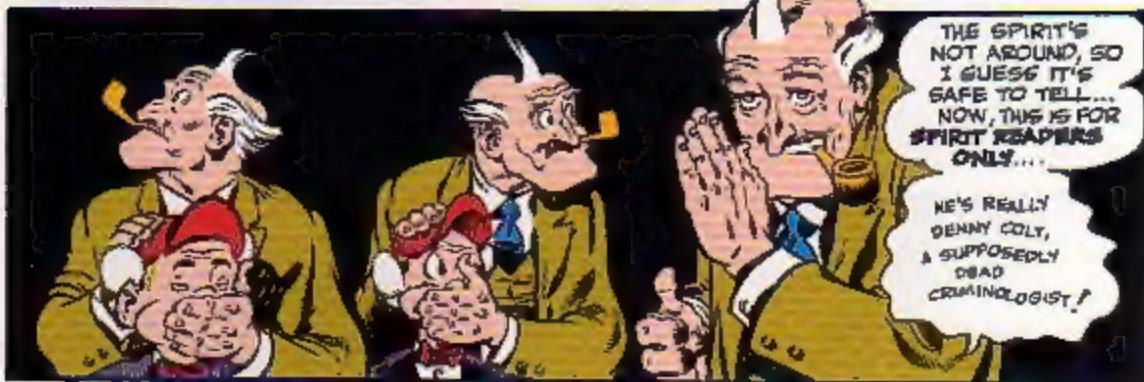
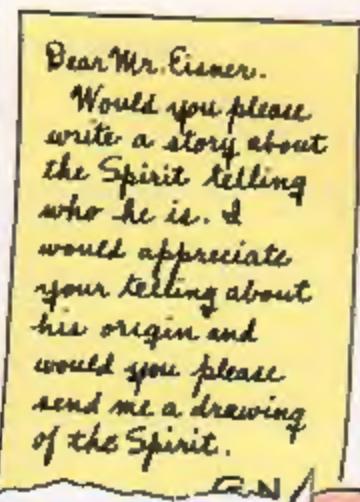


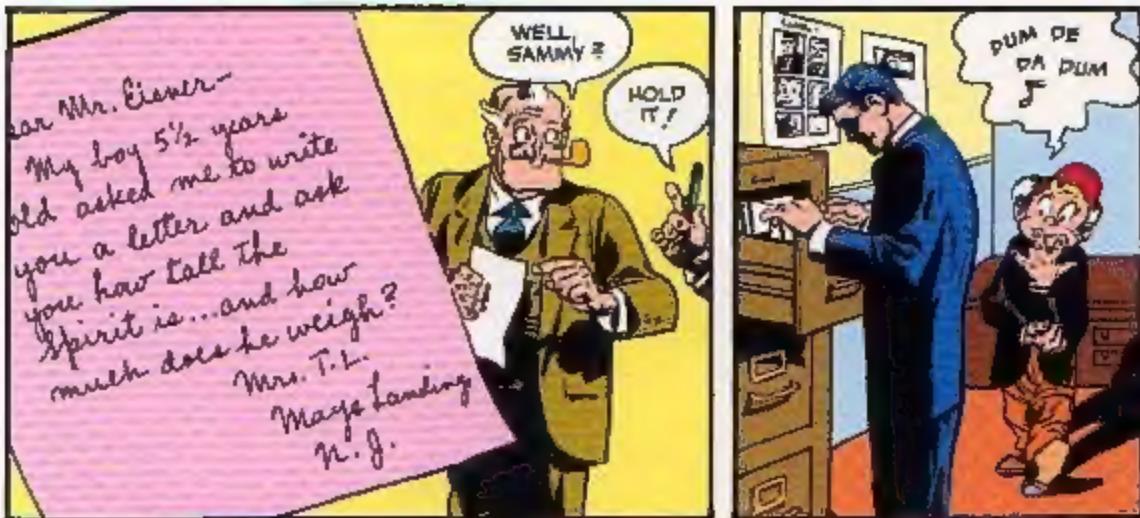
FAN MAIL

January 1, 1950

**ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE**







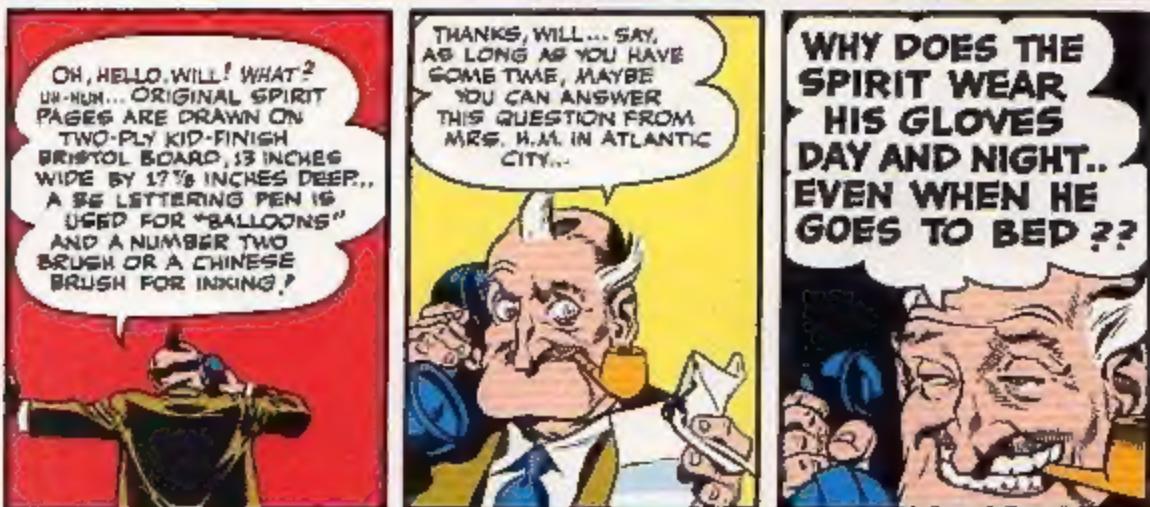
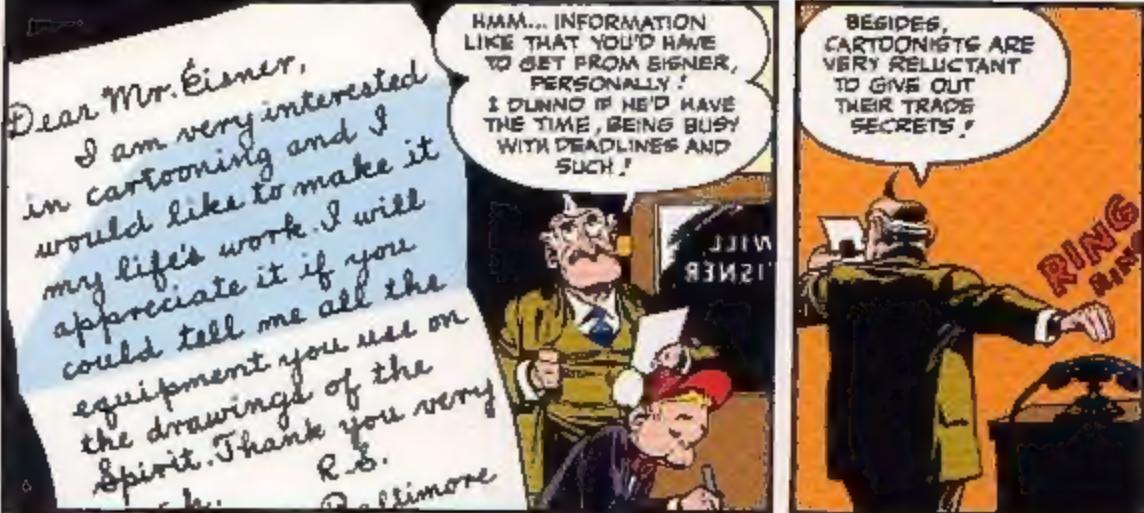
Dear Mr. Eisner -  
Is it really true  
that the Spirit never  
carries a gun and if  
so, how can he  
possibly continue to  
overcome well-armed  
thugs?

Yours truly  
A.J.  
Newark, N.J.

The Spirit

JANUARY 26, 1947





Dear sir,

I'm writing this for three little girls aged 3, 7, and 11. They asked me to write and request that, in place of the regular Spirit comic strip one Sunday in the near future, you have drawings of all the girls that have been in the Spirit's life since you created the



THEN THERE WAS THORNE... HE MET HER LAST JANUARY...



AND MONICA VETO, WHO TRIED TO MAKE THE SPIRIT MAYOR...



AND AUTUMN MORN, WHO LATER GOT KILLED IN A POLICE BARRAGE...



SATIN... THE BEAUTIFUL TROUBLED SATIN...



SALLY OF THE ISLANDS AND LILY LOTUS... THE TWO WOMEN WHO HAD SO MUCH TO DO WITH HIS SOUTH SEA ISLAND ADVENTURES...



AND OF COURSE... I'LL...

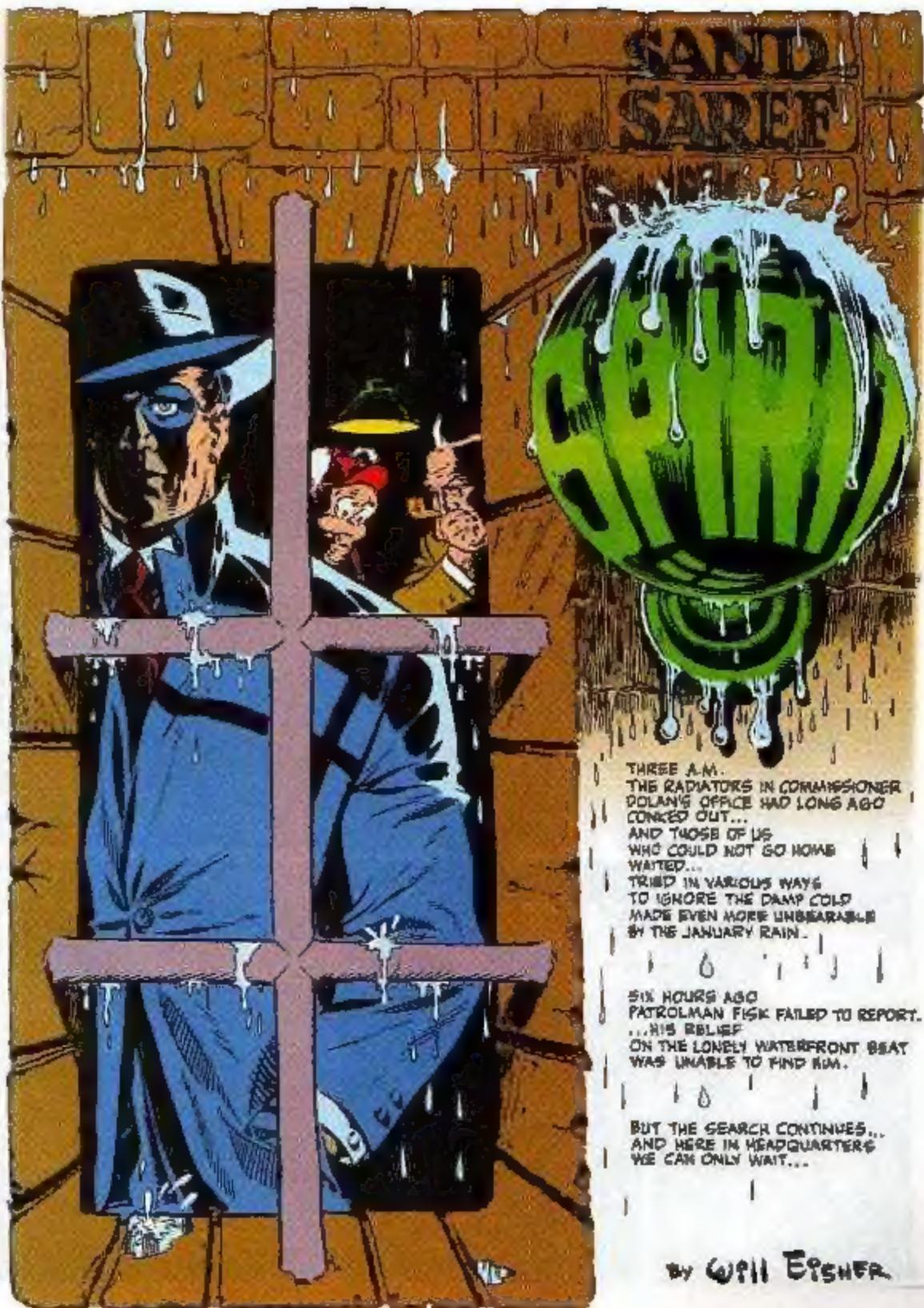
WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO HER... WONDER WHAT SHE'S DOING... WONDER...



HEY DOLAN!!  
OH WELL...  
I'LL  
GO ON TO  
THE NEXT LETTER!





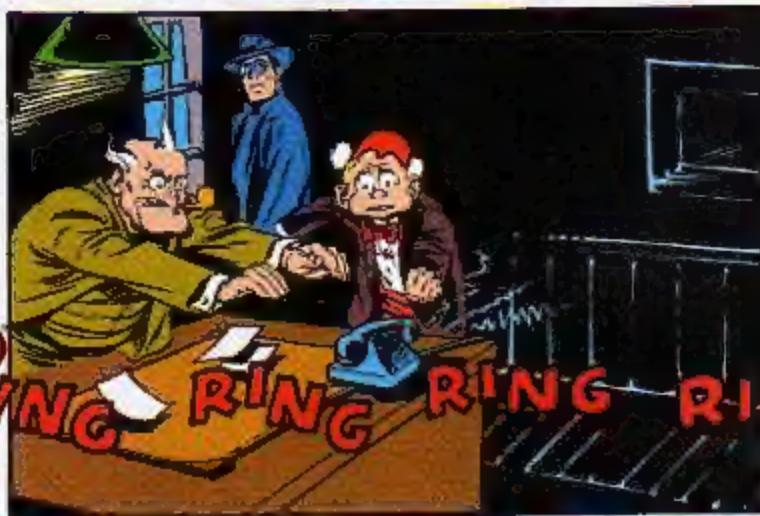


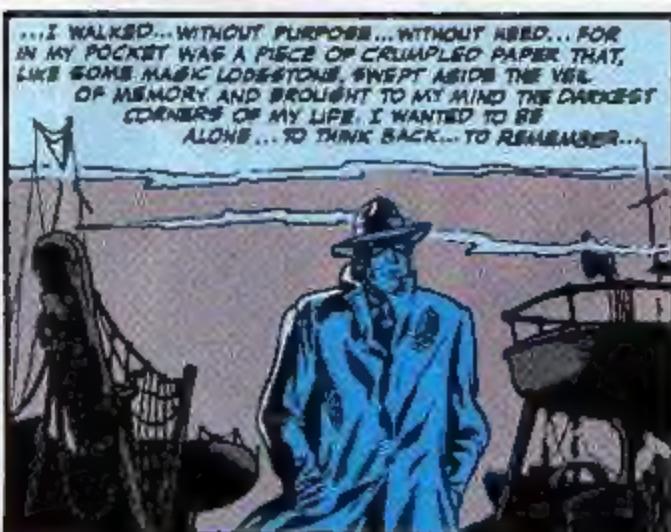
THREE A.M.  
THE RADIATORS IN COMMISSIONER  
DOLAN'S OFFICE HAD LONG AGO  
CONKED OUT...  
AND THOSE OF US  
WHO COULD NOT GO HOME  
WAITED...  
TRYED IN VARIOUS WAYS  
TO IGNORE THE DAMP COLD  
MADE EVEN MORE UNBEARABLE  
BY THE JANUARY RAIN...

SIX HOURS AGO  
PATROLMAN FISK FAILED TO REPORT.  
...HIS RELIEF  
ON THE LONELY WATERFRONT BEAT  
WAS UNABLE TO FIND HIM.

BUT THE SEARCH CONTINUES...  
AND HERE IN HEADQUARTERS  
WE CAN ONLY WAIT...

by Will Eisner





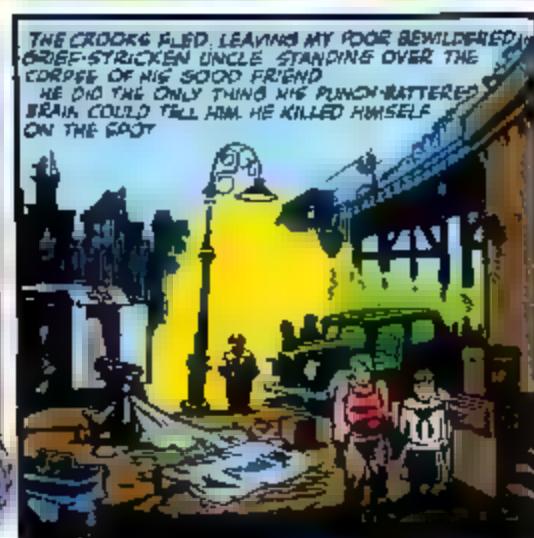
I WALKED, LOST IN MEMORY. MY MIND SENT RACING BACK IN TIME BY A NAME SCRABLED ON A CARD: "SAND SAREF". WITHOUT THINKING I FOUND MYSELF BACK IN DOLAN'S OFFICE AGAIN.



I FIRST MET SAND WHEN I WAS A KID IN THE SLUMS OF CENTRAL CITY'S LOWER EAST SIDE. I WAS LIVING WITH MY UNCLE AT THE TIME. HE WAS A HAS-BEEN FIGHTER. AS FOR SAND... HER FATHER WAS A COP.



OFFICER SAREF WAS A SQUARE BRAVE COP. AND HE TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO LOOK AFTER MY POOR UNCLE WHO WAS A PATSY FOR THE PETTY CROOKS THAT INFESTED OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. BUT ONE DAY





AFTER THAT, SAND PAPPED OUT OF MY LIFE COMPLETELY... TILL ONE NIGHT I SAW HER, WITH SAUCY HYDE, A SMALL-TIME RACKETEER. THE COPS WERE LOOKING FOR HIM. I HAD TO WARN HER.



SAND!

SAND. SAND.  
I TRIED TO  
WARN YOU!

OH  
HE'S DEAD

WHAT ARE YOU TRYNG TO  
PROVE BY THIS KIND OF LIFE,  
SAND? YOU'RE GOING TO  
SPEND THE REST OF YOUR  
DAYS RUNNNG HIDING.  
LIVING WITH CHEAP,  
ROTTEN PEOPLE!

GO  
AWAY  
Y'BOther  
ME BOY

HER WAY WAS A RUSSED ONE IT BECAME KNOWN AROUND TOWN THAT SHE HAS BEEN WITH CROOKS. SHE COULDNT GET A DECENT JOB, AND ENDED UP AS HATNECK GIRL IN A GAMBLING JOINT CALLED SPANGLES CAFE. THE LAST TIME I TRIED TO HELP HER

LOOK, SAND.  
I KNOW YOU DON'T  
WANT TO SEE ME  
BUT YOU OUGHT  
TO KNOW: THIS  
PLACE IS GOING  
TO BE RAIDED.

THANKS  
FOR THE  
TIP OFF,  
DENNY

MY PLAN MISSED FIRE - SHE  
WARNED SPANGLES INSTEAD!

HE SHOULD  
KNOW HE'S AN  
AIDE IN THE  
COMMISSIONERS  
OFFICE!

COPSHAH?  
LISTEN,  
DEARIE.  
WE'RE  
GETTIN OUT  
OF THE  
COUNTRY  
RIGHT NOW  
C'MON!

AND THE LAST I SAW OF HER  
SHE WAS SAILING FOR EUROPE  
WITH ONE OF THE MOST  
NOTORIOUS GAMBLING RINGS  
AROUND





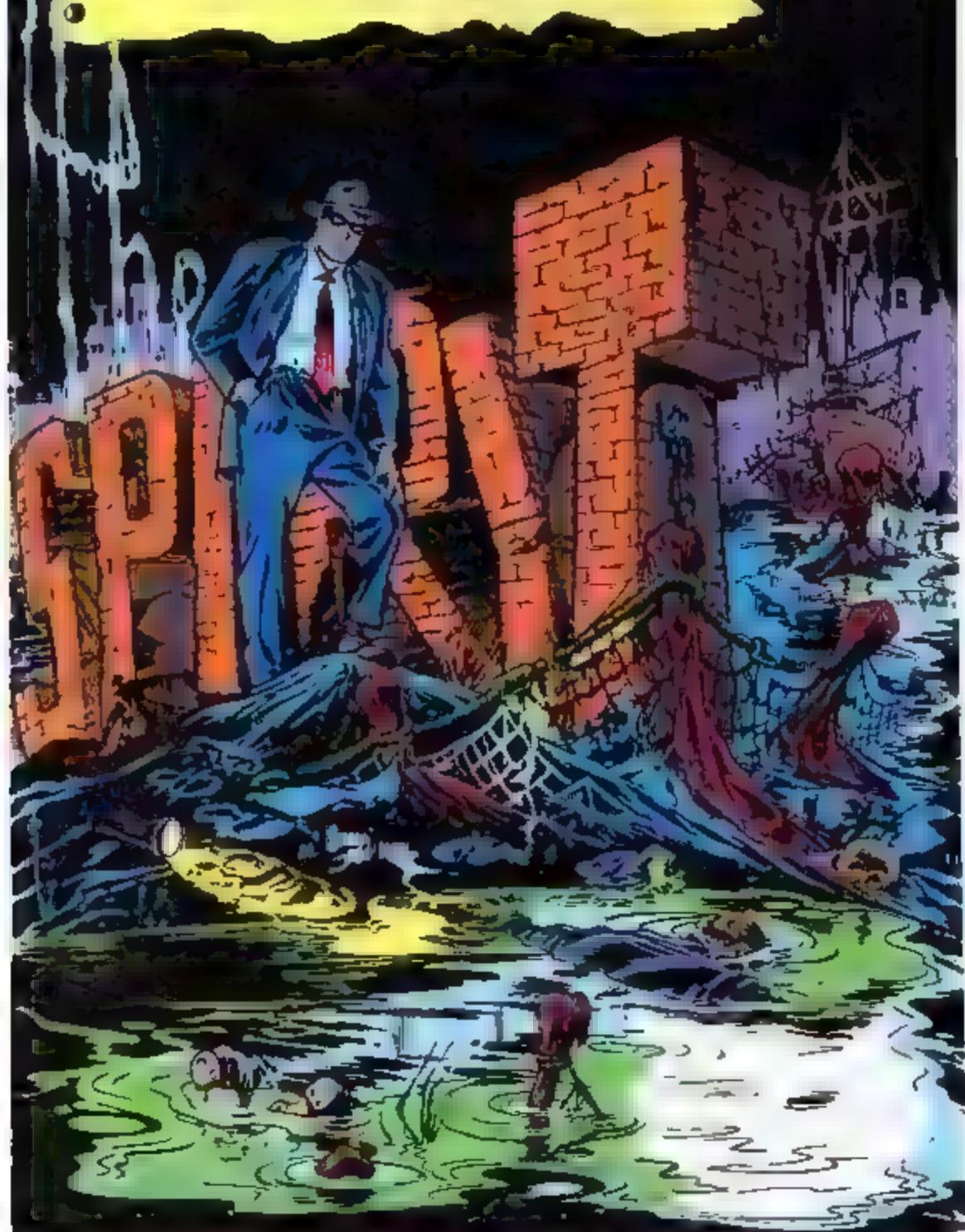
**BY 1942** AMERICA WAS WELL IN THE WAR. BAND HAD ACHIEVED AN INTERNATIONAL BACKGROUND AS FOR ME, I WAS WITH AMERICAN INTELLIGENCE AND I COULD ONLY FOLLOW HER POLITICS BY NEWSPAPER... THINGS BELIEVE ME HAD TO TELL A LOT THAT GIRL REALLY GOT AROUND!



I KNOW THAT  
WHETHER OR NOT I WISH IT  
I MUST FIND BAND  
AND  
BRING HER IN!



Bring in Sand Saref ....



POLICE EMERGENCY  
WARD 4

QUIET  
PLEASE  
A COUPLE OF



GET ME A CITY HARBOR MAP, DOLAN!

HELLO, HARBOR PATROL. THIS IS THE SPIDER. CHECK THE RECORDS AND TELL ME OF ANY ACCIDENT OR SINKING OFF 34TH STREET ON SOUTH RIVER.

WHATEVER YOU MIGHT SAY, PEOPLE DIED OUT AROUND Y'D NEVER KNOW I WAS BOSS HERE!



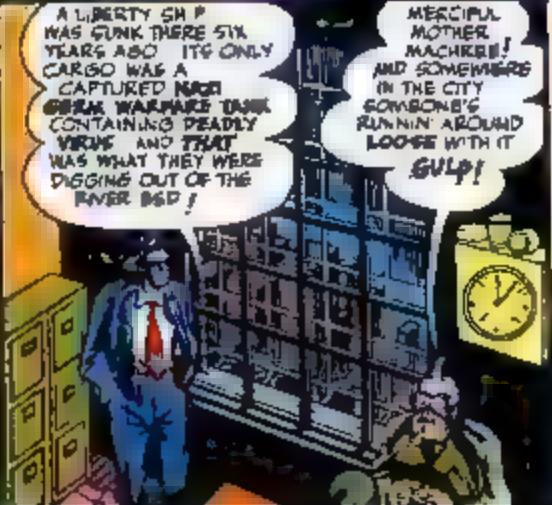
F\*CKS SAKE,  
SPIDER.. SPILL IT!

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

A LIBERTY SHIP WAS SUNK THERE SIX YEARS AGO. ITS ONLY CARGO WAS A CAPTURED NAZO germ warfare tank containing DEADLY VIRUS AND THAT WAS WHAT THEY WERE DIGGING OUT OF THE RIVER BED!

MERCIFUL MOTHER MACHREE! AND SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY SOMONE'S RUNNIN' AROUND LOOSE WITH IT GULP!

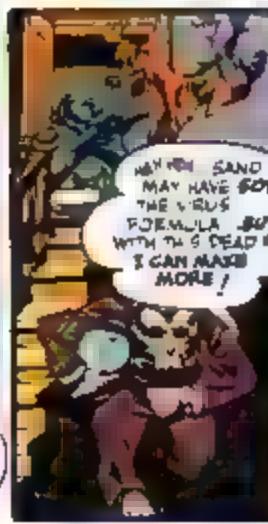
AND INDEED, IN A MATTER OF THE PARK RITZ HOTEL



DEAD. IN EXACTLY 10 SECONDS. A HUMAN MUST BE ABLE TO HOLD OUT FOR 20. NO MORE







THE AFTERNOON, SHE WENT OUT TO BE EXACT  
WALKED OUT OF SWELLING EVENTS FOR TWO  
MEN IN A WOMAN CALLED UP MOVE A GEARPLANE  
FROM THE CLEVER CONCEALMENT

SHE'S READY 92  
WE'D BETTER TAKE OFF  
BEFORE THE HARBOUR PATROL  
STARTS THE ROUNDS

FINE PILOT!

HELL GANG! SORRY I  
MADE THAT PASS AT YOU  
BUT WHAT I OFFERED  
STILL SORE WEALTH  
**POSITION POWER**

BUT?

NO SALE THIS IS  
MY BIG CHANCE THE  
CHANCE I'VE WAITED  
FOR ALL THESE  
YEARS IN BACK  
HOME AND I'D LIKE  
TO STAY A LITTLE  
MASSIE I'LL SETTLE  
DOWN IN A SMALL  
TOWN EVER MARRY  
SOME GIRL WHO'LL  
OVERLOOK  
MY PAST









## THE PREDICTIONS OF DRUID PEER

January 22, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

BY GENE ELLINGER



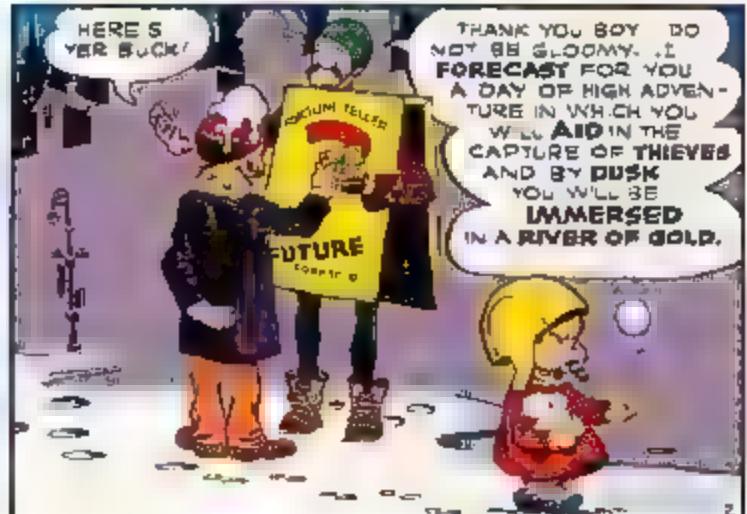
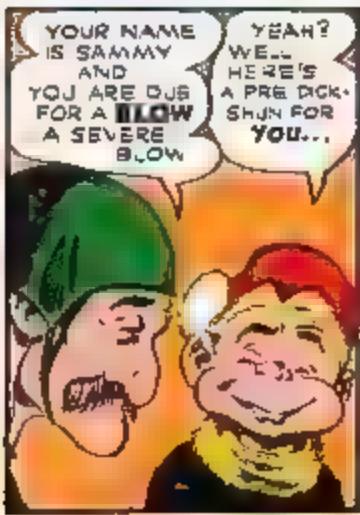
### LEAVE US FACE IT...

The constant  
onward  
year  
of man  
is  
the unknown

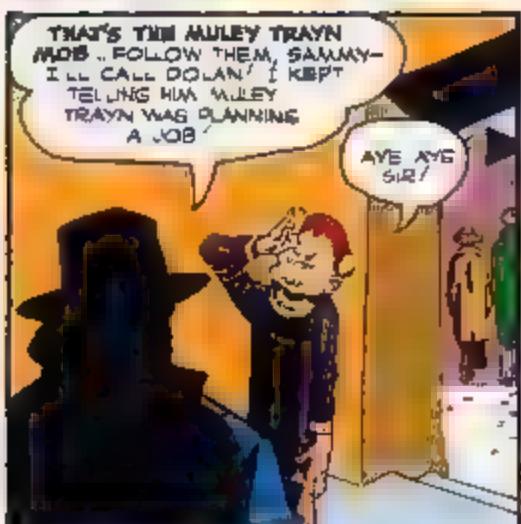
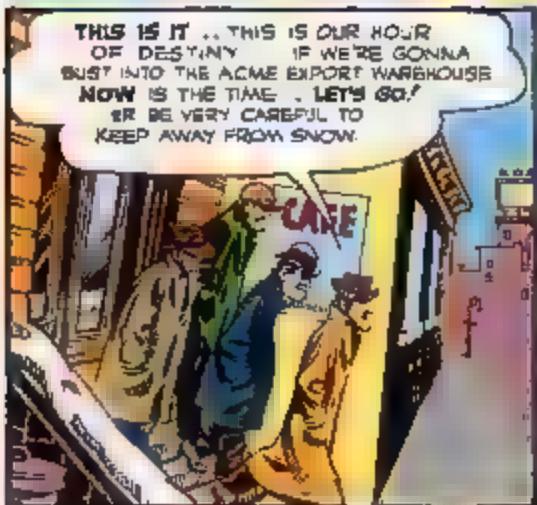
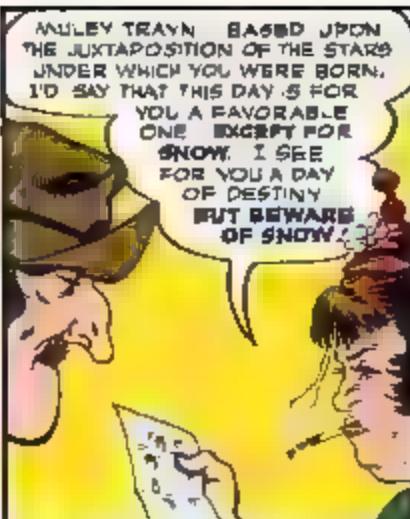
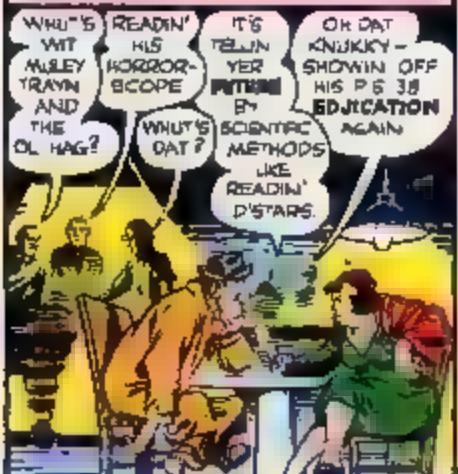
Yes build yourself a  
better mousetrap  
and you may go broke

BUT, cousin, predict a man  
a prediction - tell him  
in advance what may  
befall him tomorrow  
and you are LOADED

We call  
your attention to  
Druid Peer



-AND SO...ABOUT TWO HOURS LATER...



HELLO? WHAT'S THAT? YOU CAN'T GET HOLD OF COMMISSIONER DOLAN? LISTEN CLOSELY! THIS IS THE SPIRIT! GET A SQUAD OF MEN DOWN TO WATER STREET I'LL MEET YOU THERE!

SURE, SPIRIT...  
RIGHT AWAY,  
SPIRIT!!

GOT TO GET OUT THERE AND... OFFICER KLINK- AS CHIEF OF STATISTICS I FEEL YOU OUGHT TO KNOW SOMETHING

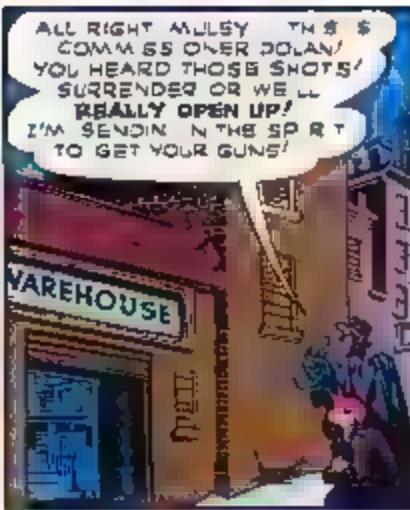
DO YOU KNOW THAT BASED UPON LAST YEAR'S STATISTICS I CAN PREDICT- OUT OF THE 24,098 PHONY PHONE TIPS THE POLICE WILL RECEIVE, 348.03% OF THEM WILL SAY THEY ARE THE SPIRIT!

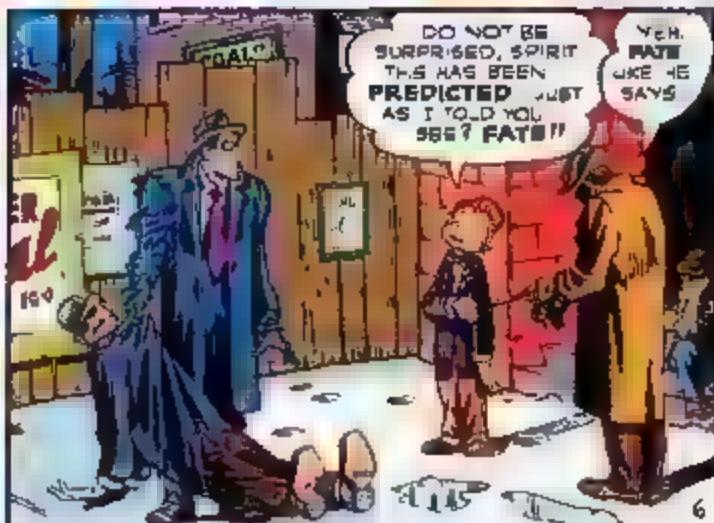
:60% THEN THAT ONE MAY HAVE BEEN A PHONY!

MEANWHILE:

AAH SAMMY'S TRAIL







BUT SPIRIT,  
EVERY OTHER  
PREDICTION DRD  
PEER MADE CAME  
THROUGH NOW  
IT'S ONLY A  
MATTER  
OF TIME TLL  
I COME INTO  
THAT GOLD!

GUESS THERE'S  
NO POINT ARGUING WITH  
YOU BUT DON'T SPEND  
ANY OF IT UNTIL  
YOU FIND OUT WHETHER  
IT'S YOURS

ED  
BRIDGE  
DAM

THE OLD  
**GOLD  
RIVER  
BRIDGE**

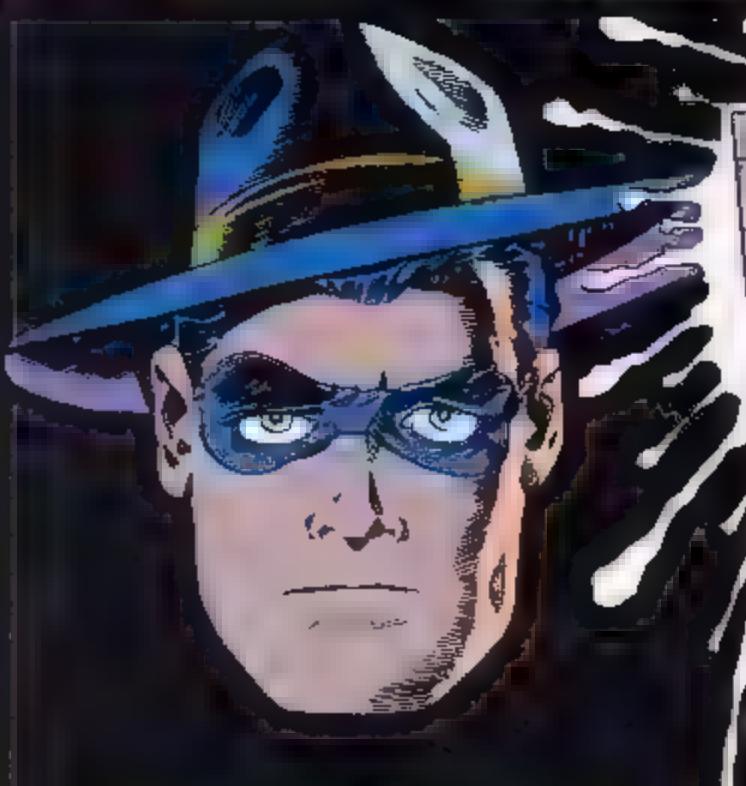
ERECTED IN  
1887 BY  
SILAS GREED &  
TO TRANSPORT  
HIS GOLD  
FROM THE  
PANNING FIELD  
TO THE  
OTHER SIDE  
OF  
GOLD RIVER



RATT TRAPP

January 29, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



ROGER (RATT) TRAPP FREED  
ONCE AGAIN THE WELL-KNOWN  
HOODLUM IS FREED ON BAIL

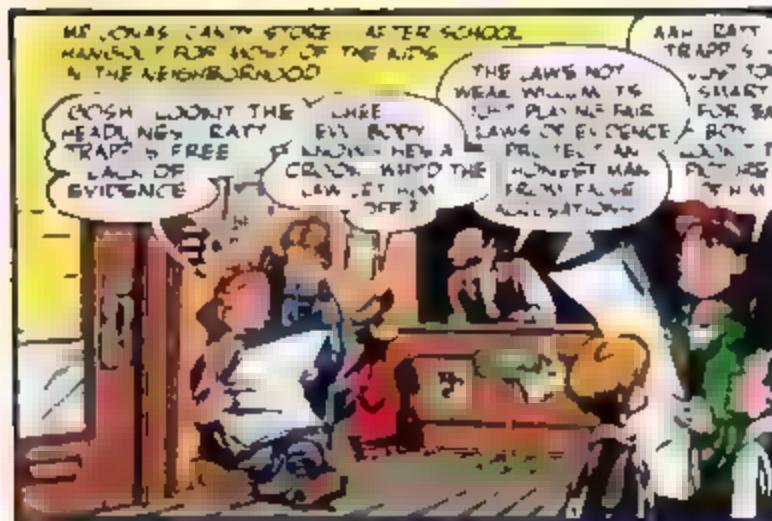
THIS IS THE STORY OF  
ROGER TRAPP THE KIND  
OF OPERATOR YOU READ  
ABOUT IN THE HEADLINES.  
MAYBE THERE'S A GUY LIKE  
HIM WHO HANGS AROUND  
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD...  
YOU KNOW THE KIND . B.G  
SHOT CONVERTIBLE WITH  
WHITE WALL TIRES . LOTS OF  
MONEY FLASHY GIRLS

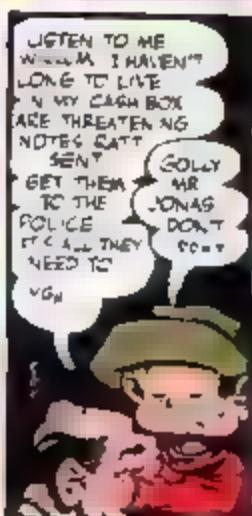
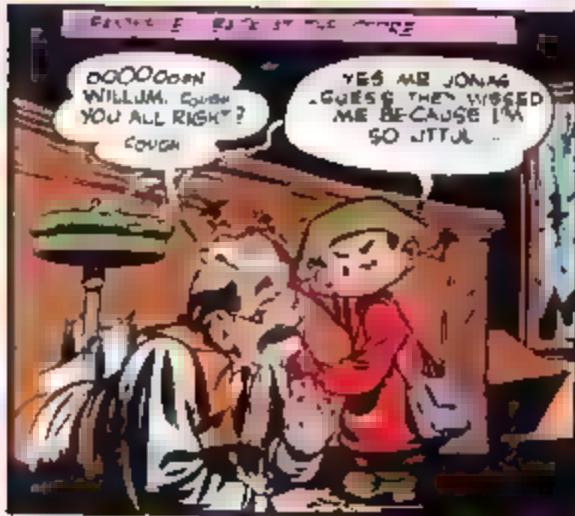
TO A LOT OF THE KIDS  
WHO LOAF ABOUL AFTER  
SCHOOL, HE'S A SORT  
OF HERO... A WHEEL...  
A GUY WHO CAN DEFY  
THE LAW AND NEVER  
GET CAUGHT...

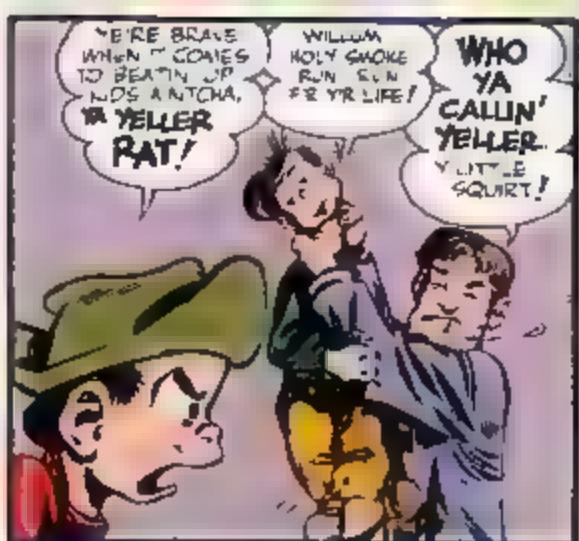
..AND THAT WAS HOW  
HE APPEARED TO  
TOMMY ROCCS AND  
WILLIE WAFF UP UNTIL  
ONE AFTERNOON

THE  
**SPRIT**

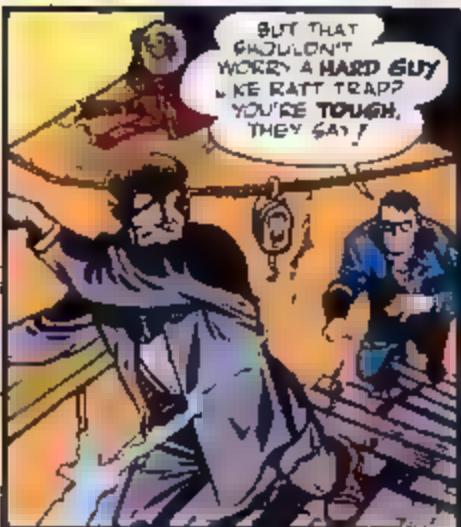
by Will Eisner













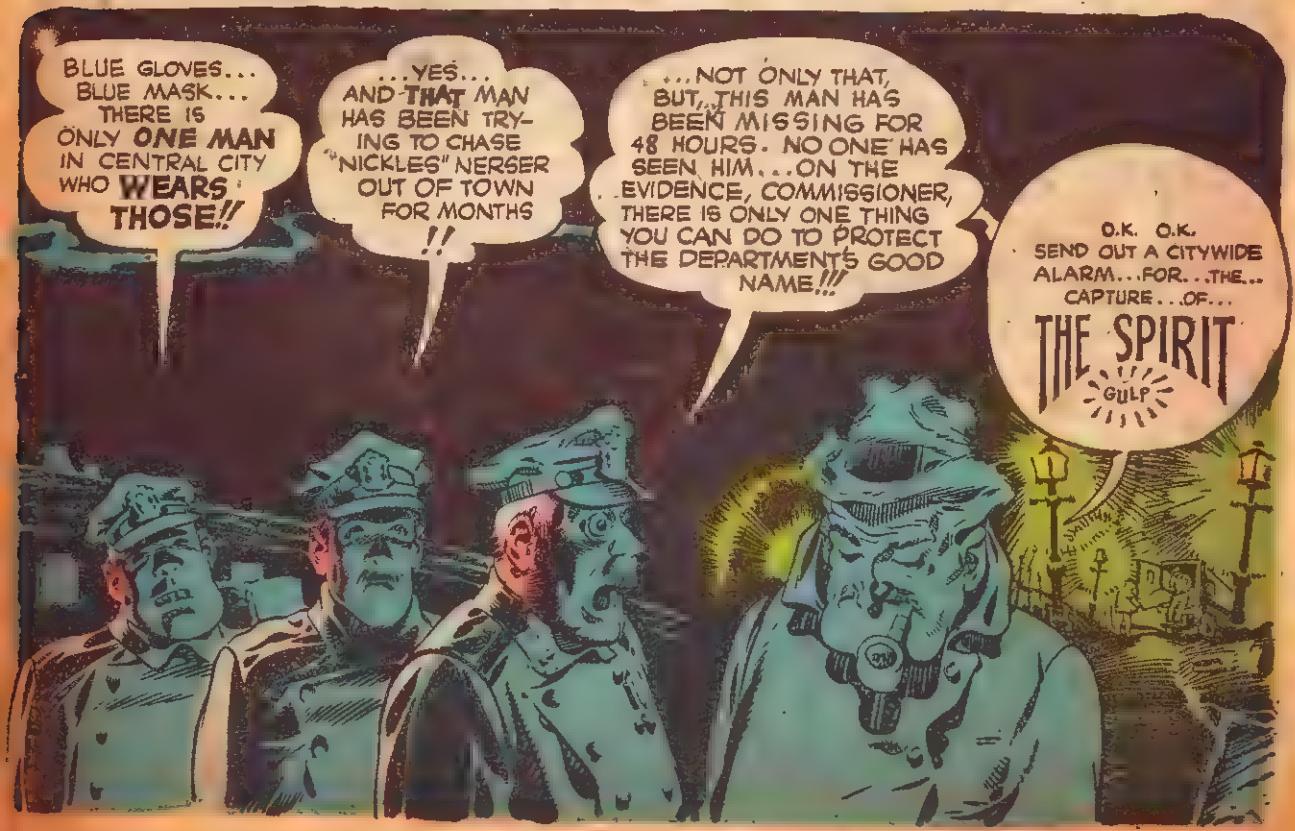


# THE SUNDAY SUN

SUNDAY BALTIMORE, MD.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

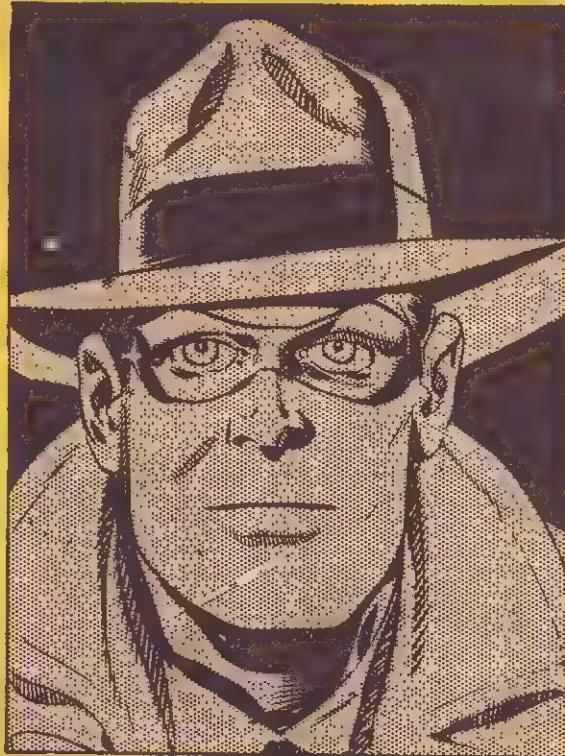




Description:  
height: 6' 1"  
weight: 198 lbs.

**WANTED FOR  
ASSAULT ON  
"NICKLES"  
NERSER !**

Nerser, gambler and shady speculator, disappeared on evening of January 10<sup>th</sup> on way to board meeting. His body was discovered in Wildwood Cemetery at 2 A.M. on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>.



All evidence points to the guilt of the Spirit.

In the weeks since the beating, he has disappeared completely.

Any information as to his whereabouts should be forwarded to Commissioner Dolan's office.

TWO WEEKS LATER...  
SOMEWHERE IN THE SLUMGULLY  
SECTION OF CENTRAL CITY...



I CAN'T SAY I FANCY  
THIS IDEA OF  
BEING THOUGHT DEAD  
BY EVERYONE! I'VE  
BEEN IN HIDING FOR  
TWO WEEKS  
AND I'M GETTING  
**BORED!**

YOU'VE OFFERED TO  
PLACE \$50,000 IN  
THE CITY HOSPITAL FUND  
IF I KEEP YOU ALIVE.  
I INTEND TO DO **JUST**  
THAT!

STAY HERE **AS USUAL!** LOCK THE  
DOOR AND DON'T LET ANYONE IN!  
I'M NOT PARTICULARLY CRAZY  
ABOUT YOU OR HOW YOU GOT YOUR  
MONEY, NERSER, BUT THAT 50,000  
CAN DO A LOT OF GOOD!



LATER... POLICE HEADQUARTERS....

SEE HERE DOLAN, AS THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE NERSER  
HOLDING COMPANY.. WE DEMAND  
ACTION ON THE BRUTAL  
SLAYING OF OUR PRESIDENT!  
THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS  
FIND HIS BODY!!

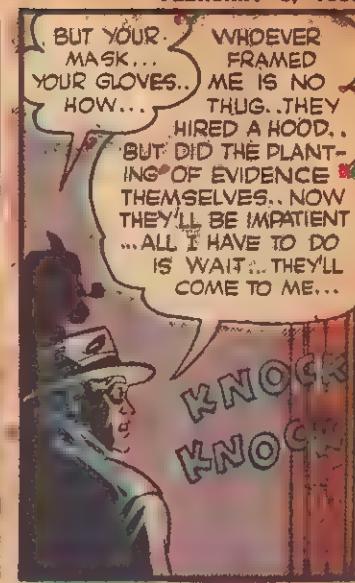
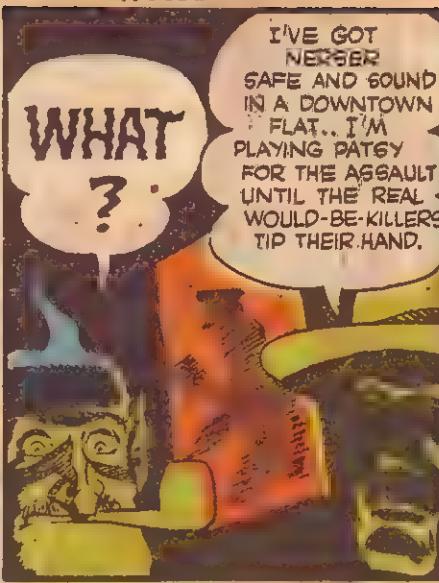
O.K.  
O.K.

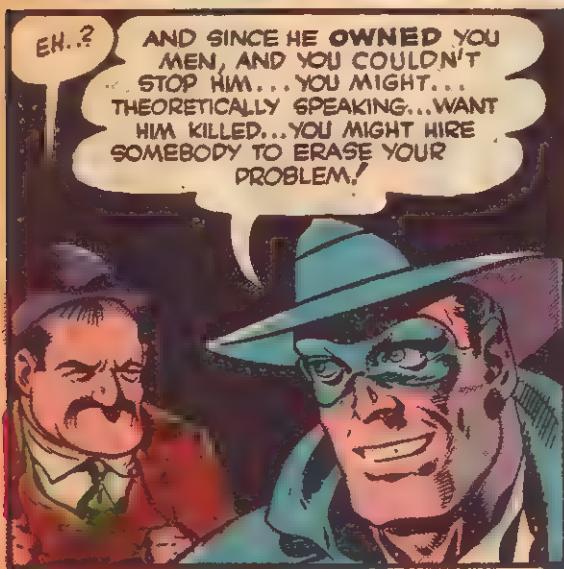
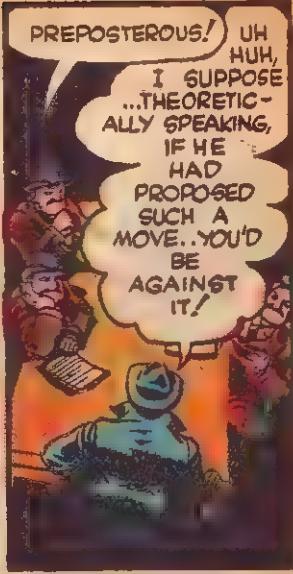
BAH! DISGRACEFUL...  
NO POLICE  
EFFICIENCY!.. JUST  
WAIT UNTIL ELECTION  
TIME ROLLS AROUND.

**YOU!**

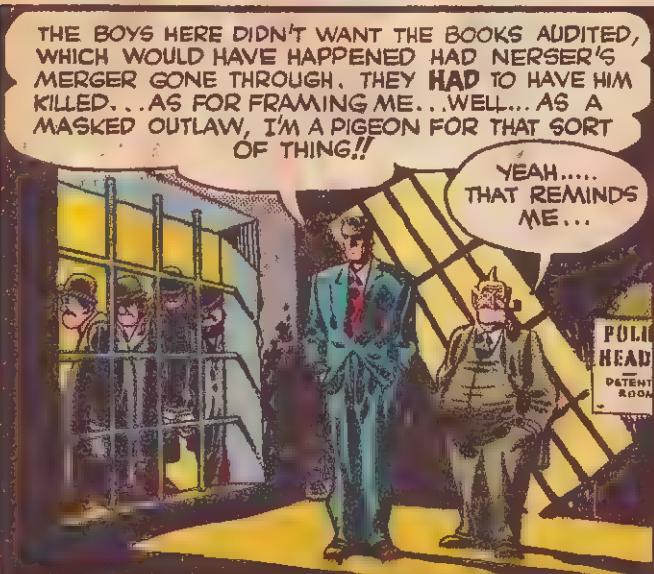
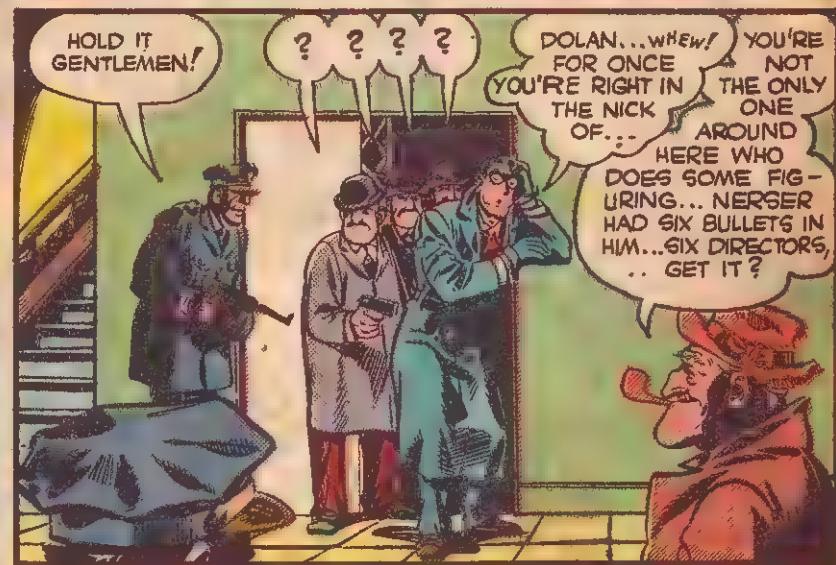
YEP.. SOMETHING  
SHOULD BE  
DONE ABOUT  
IT!

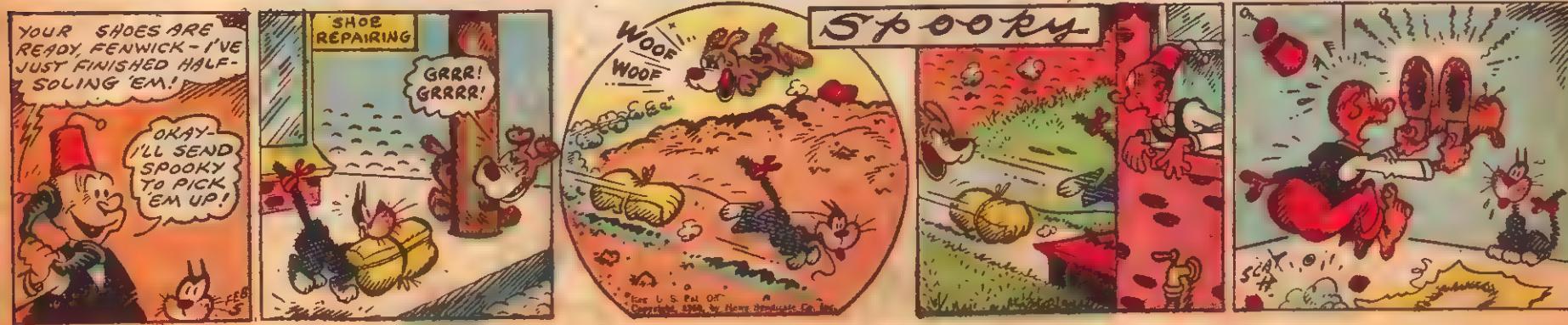
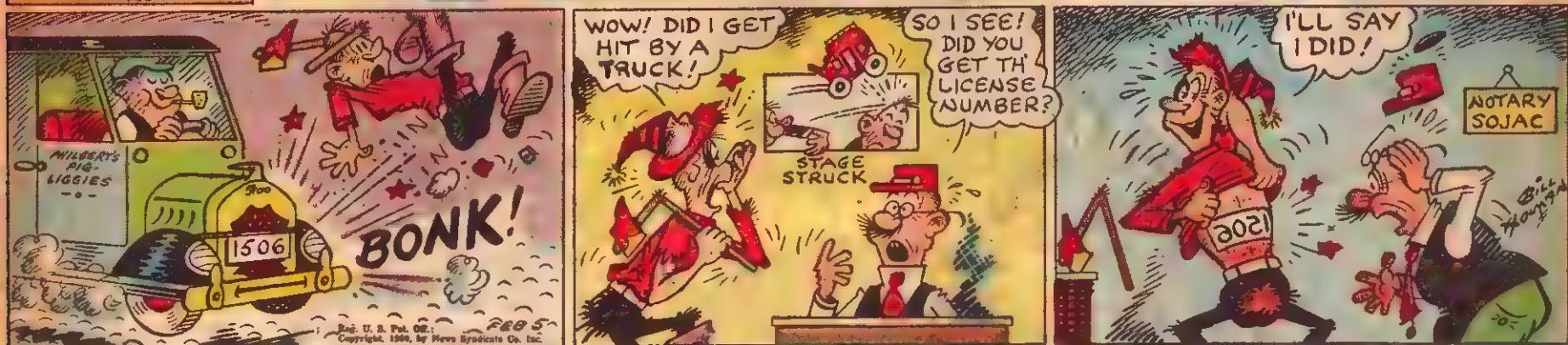
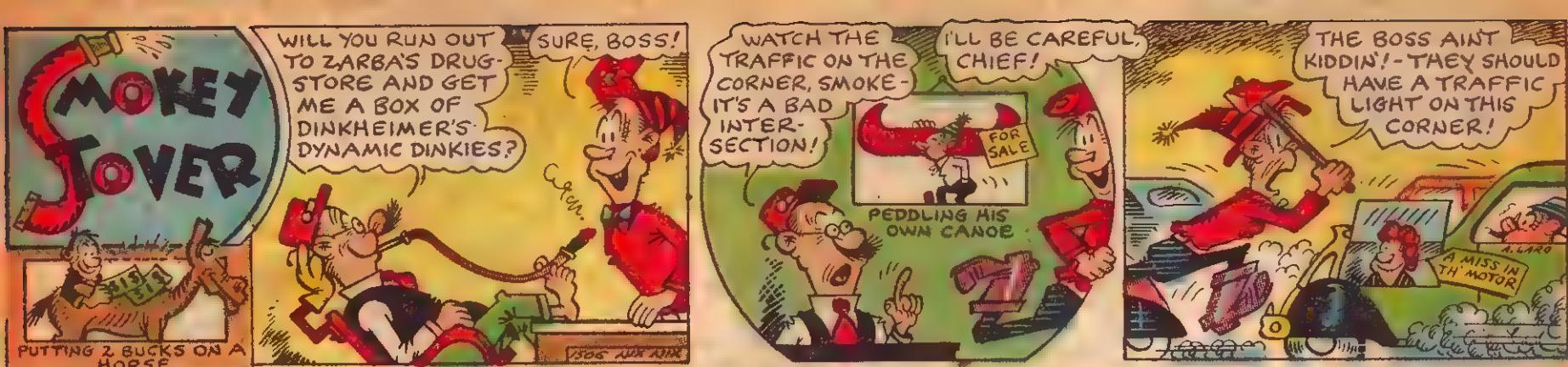














ROLLER DERBY

February 12, 1950

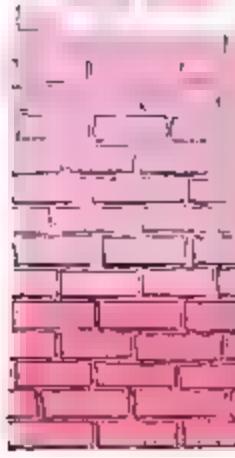
ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE

# THE SPIRIT

## ROLLER DERBY

FEATURING THAT  
**SCINTILLATING**  
GLAMOROUS  
DEMURE  
DISH  
FROM  
DISTANT  
CITY.

BY EDWARD  
BISKER



O

nce I was happy  
But now I'm forlorn...  
An object of pity  
A creature of scorn...  
Betrayed by a beauty  
So lovely, so gay.  
Spurned by Dan Cupid  
On Valentine's Day!



IT ALL STARTED ON THE FIRST EVENING OF THE ROLLER DERBY (I'M NO. 1, CAMERA ON SPECIAL EVENTS STATION WTV-CENTRAL CITY) I FIRST SAW HER THROUGH MY CAMERA..



A VISION OF LOVELINESS . A GENTLE ROSEBUD...SWEET, DEMURE AND LADYLIKE . FRAGILE AS A FLOWER



WHEN I SAW THAT RIGHT CROSS.. THAT PERFECT BLOCK. I KNEW.. YES, I KNEW THIS WAS TO BE THE PASSION OF MY LONELY EXISTENCE



MY HEART FLUTTERED MADLY TO THINK AT LAST I WOULD MEET MY LOVE. I REACHED THE STAGE DOOR BREATHLESSLY I WAITED AND THEN



WAXIE TALLOW THE GANGSTER SHE WAS KEEPING COMPANY WITH HIM!



I'M GONNA LAY 20,000 BUCKS ON THE PANTHERS. IF YOU TAKE A DIVE THEY'LL WIN.. AND YOU AND ME.. WE CAN GET MARRIED! DON'T FAIL ME BABY!



I WALKED THE STREETS THAT NIGHT LONELY AND SICK. I KNEW NOT WHERE MY FOOT STEPS CARRIED ME THEN - REALIZED WHERE TO GONE



ROLLA, YOU CAN'T LET HIM MAKE A CROOK OUT OF YOU! DON'T LISTEN TO HIM!



WHY, YOU'RE BASCOME BIRCH, THE CUTE LITTLE GUY WORKING THE TV CAMERA!

FORGET WAXIE TALLOW ROLLA HE'S JUST USING YOU! YOU'RE YOUNG AND INNOCENT YEH



YEAR GO ON BOUNDS INTERESTIN'



WAXIE!

GO TO SLEEP, SUGAR, AND FORGET THIS GUY. FORGET ME EVER BUSTED CAUSE HE AINT!







MEBBIE WE  
BETTER  
CALL A  
COP!

NO! I'M THROUGH BEING  
KICKED AROUND  
I'M GOING TO FIGHT  
T'S TIME THAT I...A  
RED-BLOODED AMERICAN.  
FOUGHT THE CROOK!  
I'M GOING TO DO  
SOMETHING!

WHAT?

I DON'T  
KNOW IT

I WENT TO MY CAMERA, KNOWING MY FUTURE  
HAPPINESS DEPENDED ON WHAT MOVE I MADE  
THEN THE IDEA STRUCK ME...I RUSHED DOWN  
TO ROLLA

GET AWAY YOU  
FOOL WAXIE  
IS WATCHING!

QUIET ROLLA AND  
LISTEN DO AS  
I SAY AND EVERY  
THING WILL TURN  
OUT ALL RIGHT!

THE DERBY BEGAN AND  
I DASHED BACK TO MY  
CAMERA

WHAT? DO AS I SAY  
SAMMY!  
"HERE'S NO TIME  
CALL COMMISSIONER  
DOLAN AND TELL HIM  
TO WATCH HIS  
TELEVISION SET!"

I SHOULD WORK  
I GOT TO  
WORK! PLEASE  
LET IT WORK!!

BY THIS TIME THE DERBY WAS ON FULL FORCE  
GIRLS KNOCKING ONE ANOTHER DOWN  
AND COMING FROM BEHIND WAS

ROLLA BALL!

SHE AIN'T THROWN  
THE RACE WAXIE  
IT'S A DOUBLE-  
CROSS!

BANG!!

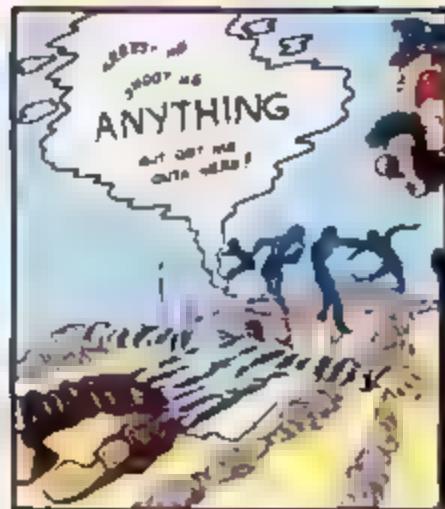
I SAW WAXIE REACH FOR HIS  
GUN QUICKLY I SWERVED  
THE CAMERA

DOLAN...  
LOOK!

IT'S  
WAXIE  
TALLOW!

HELLO KLINE?  
GET A SQUAD  
OUT TO THE  
ROLLER DERBY!







THE HALF DEAD  
MR. LOX  
February 19, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

TORN FROM THE TENTACLES OF  
TORTURE AND TERROR  
FASHIONED FROM THE FABRIC OF  
FEAR AND FUROR

THE Will Eisner STUDIOS  
BRING YOU ...

# THE STRANGE OPERAHOUSE

IN THE

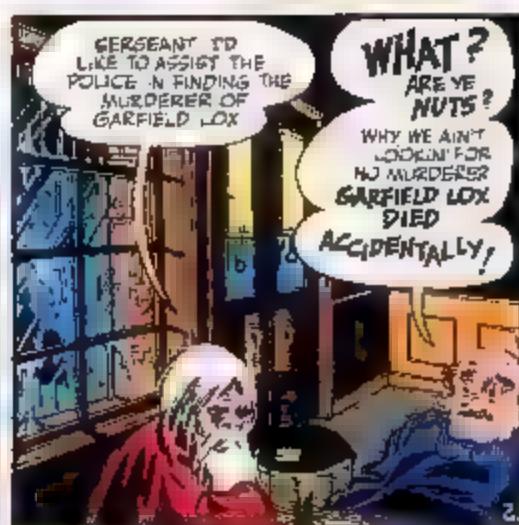
STRANGE, GHASTLY AFFAIR OF THE

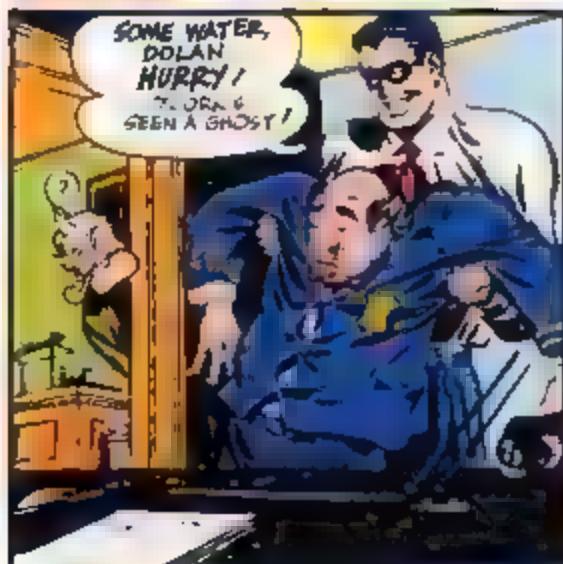
# HALF DEAD MR. LOX





**E**vening in Central City...a soft muttering rain pelts the late city noises into an eerie half silence and saturates everything. Near Police Headquarters William Waif, a tired, homeless boy, counts his pennies.







MEANWHILE... POLICE HEADQUARTERS

"NEW SERGEANT O'CORK IS STILL OUT COLD. GOT ANYTHING, SPIRIT?"

"YES, THE BONG IN DOCUMENTS TELL ME THAT ONLY MR. LOX'S HEAD WAS MISSING WHEN THEY EMPTIED THE LIFE BUCKET."

"BUT WE STILL HAVE NO PROOF HE HAS MURDERED, SIR!"

"MAYBE WE HAVE LYE NEEDS WATER TO START ITS ROTTING ACTION. OBSERVE THIS WATER GLASS. USE IT TO ADD WATER AFTER THE BODY FELL IN!"

"THEY CONTAIN FINGERPRINTS, DOLAN. FROM THE HAND OF MR. GIBBET."

"MR. GIBBET WAS LOX'S PARTNER. GET THE WAGON!"

MEANWHILE... IN THE OLD HOUSE

"GOTCHA!"

"EEEK! A GHOST... A BODYLESS GHOST.. I'M GOING MAD!"

"SEE I TOLD YOU, WILLIAM. I'M HELPLESS."

"GOLLY!! WE GOTTA CALL THE POLICE!"

"STOP JIMBO! TITTLE STUFF!"

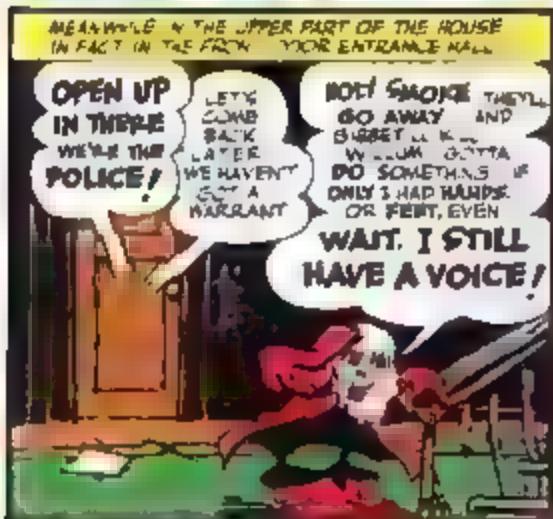
"YELP!"

"HA HA HEE  
NO YOU  
DON'T!"

"YOU ARE GOING TO DIE,  
MY LITTLE MAN.  
BURNED BEYOND  
RECOGNITION?  
HA HA HEE HEE"

"OOP PARDON ME

"F'GOSH SAKEYS.  
MR. LOX  
IF YOU CAN'T  
HELP, AT LEAST  
KEEP OUT OF  
MY WAY!"







BLOOD OF  
THE EARTH  
February 26, 1950

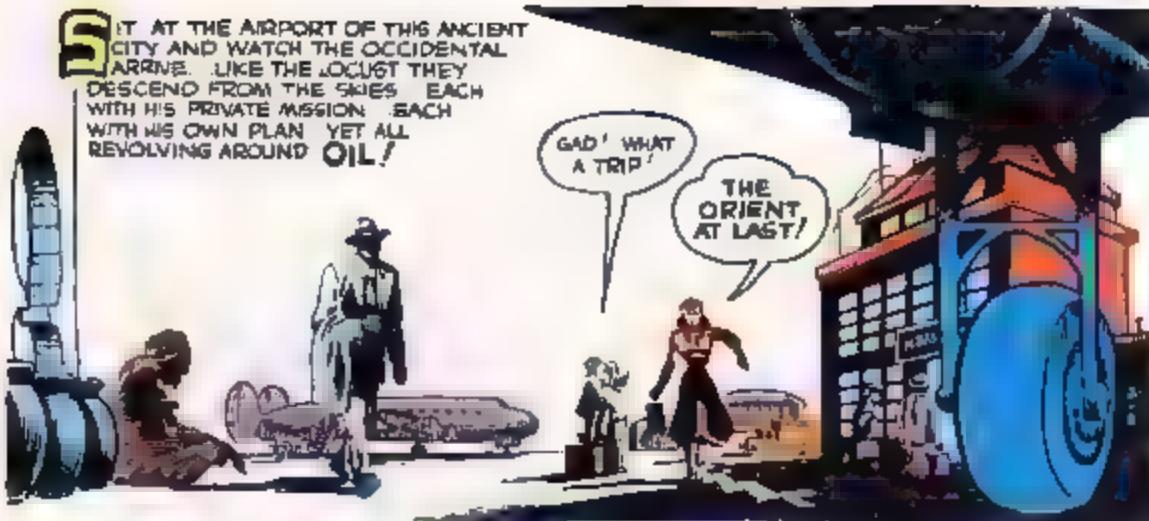
ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

# the Shirt

AYEE! EFFENDI...  
BENEATH OUR SHIFTING  
SANDS IN THE ROCKY  
ARTERIES OF OUR LAND  
FLOWS THE BLOOD OF  
THE EARTH . OIL! A  
LIQUID TREASRE FOR  
WHICH MAN WILL LIE,  
STEAL, CHEAT.. AND  
EVEN KILL!!

BY  
W.H.  
EISNER

**S**HIT AT THE AIRPORT OF THIS ANCIENT CITY AND WATCH THE OCCIDENTAL ARRIVE. LIKE THE LOCUST THEY DESCEND FROM THE SKIES EACH WITH HIS PRIVATE MISSION. EACH WITH HIS OWN PLAN YET ALL REVOLVING AROUND OIL!



IT'S BEEN A LONG TREK TO FIND YOU, GREGG! I AM LOOKING FOR THE JEWEL OF OZEN THE STONE OF IMMORTALITY SUPPOSEDLY WORN ON THE FOREHEAD OF IWANI THE DAUGHTER OF ALI BEY YOU WROTE A PAPER ON IT THE CENTRAL CITY MUSEUM HAS ASKED ME TO BRING IT BACK

LEAVE ME ALONE YOU PEOPLE DROVE ME OUT OF AMERICA LAUGHED AT MY STORY WHY LISTEN TO IT NOW?

THERE ARE CERTAIN PRIVATE COMPANIES THAT ARE JOLLEYING FOR THE OIL ON THIS LAND THEY BELIEVE THAT ALI BEY WILL SELL HIS RIGHTS TO THE ONE WHO CAN FIND HIS LOST DAUGHTER THIS SEEMS TO PROVE YOUR STORY AND I THINK YOU KNOW WHERE SHE IS



BAH! SHE WAS KIDNAPPED AS A BABY THAT WAS OVER FIFTY YEARS AGO CONSIDERING THE BRIEF LIFE SPAN OF THIS COUNTRY I WAGER THE PRINCESS HAS PROBABLY BEEN DEAD FOR TEN YEARS AND THE JEWEL SHE WORE (HER ONLY IDENTIFICATION) NO DOUBT IS WALLOWING IN A SWAMP SOMEWHERE! OR IN THE TREASURES STORE OF SOME DESERT POTENTATE!



NOW LET ME BE I'M NOT INTERESTED IN OIL OR MONEY!

NEITHER AM I



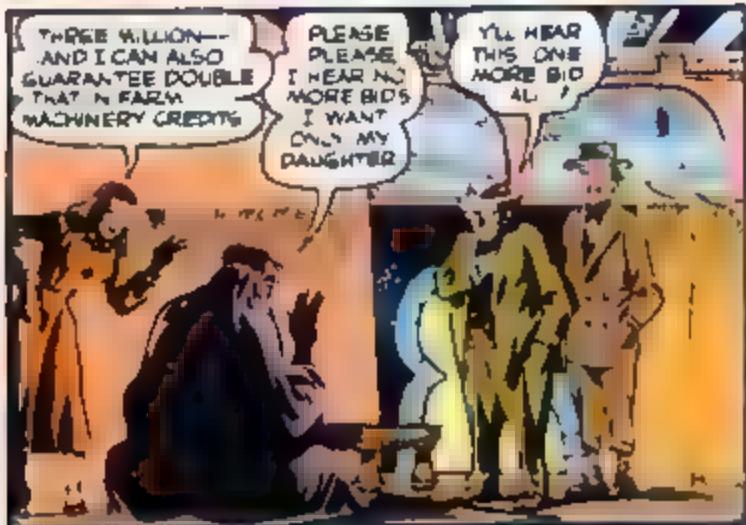
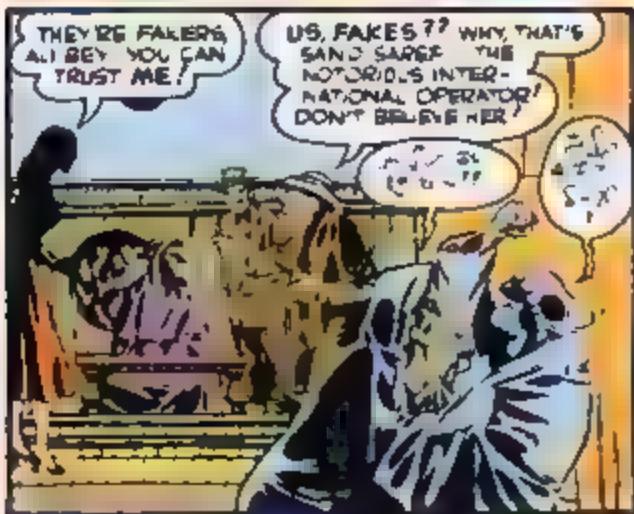
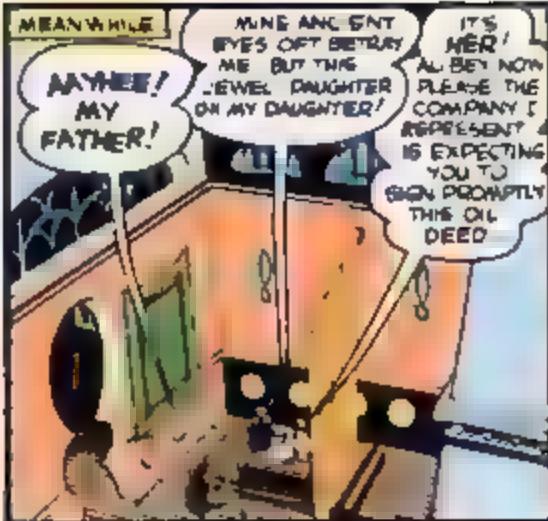
BUT MANY MEN ARE!! THEY WILL STOP AT NOTHING TO GET IT SOON YOU OAKIE THEY KNOW THAT YOU HOLD THE KEY IF THE OIL COMPANIES FIND IWAN FIRST WHO KNOWS WHAT MIGHT BECOME OF THE JEWEL?!

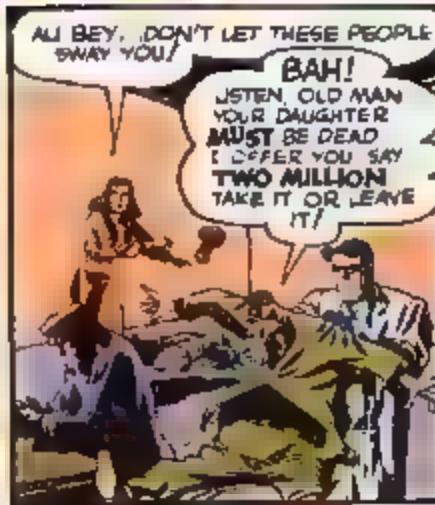
YAWN  
YOU BORE ME

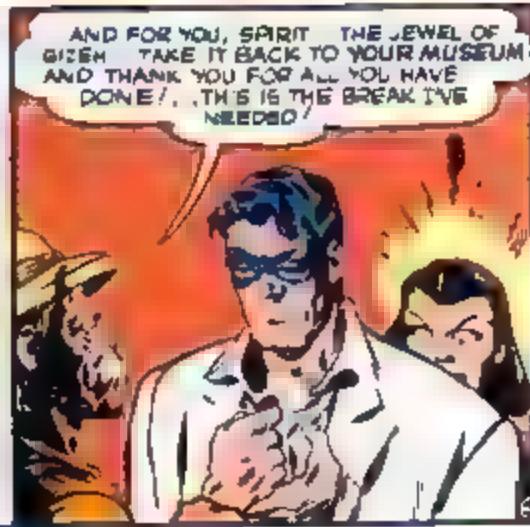
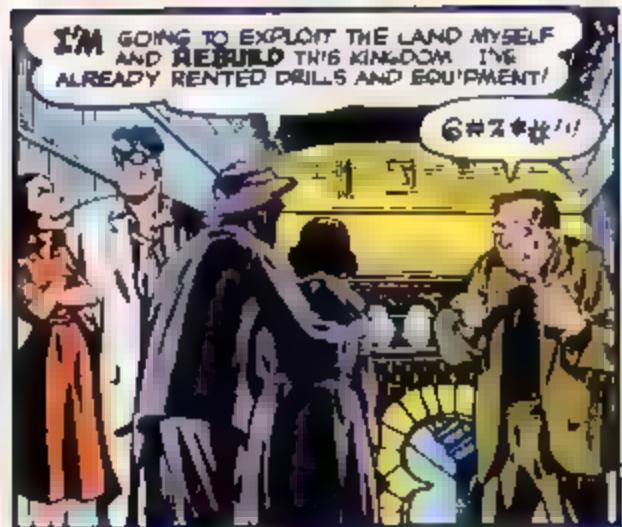
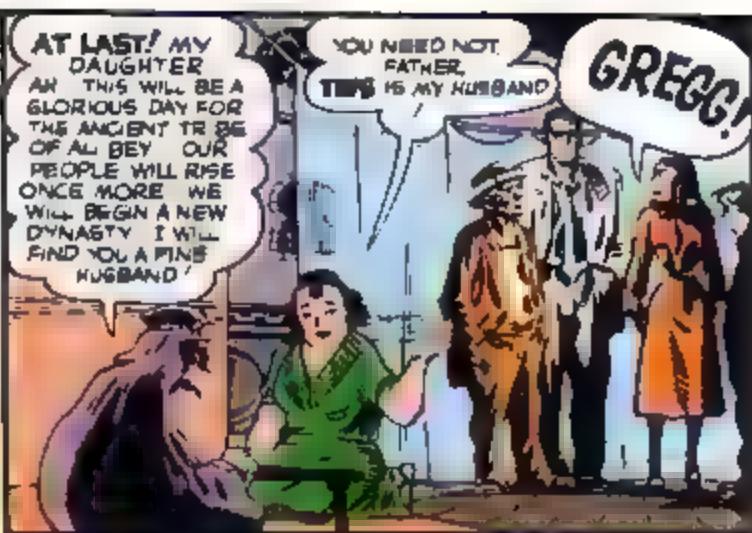


I'M GOING DOWN THE STREET BACK TO THE NATIVE QUARTER WHERE I'M NOT RECOGNIZED













## SAMMY AND DELILAH

March 5, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

SUN, MAR 5, 1950 (ADVERTISEMENT)

CAST OF 20,000  
PEOPLE,  
50,000 ANIMALS

DON'T MISS THESE  
UNFORGETTABLE SCENES!!

SEE

SAMMY ALONE ONLY WITH  
A TV ANTENNA, FIGHTS  
THE UNIVERSE!

SEE

SAMMY FIGHTS THE  
MIGHTY LION

SEE

SAMMY BETRAYED BY  
HIS LOVE



NOW **SPIRIT**  
BY WILL EISNER

**RIALTO**

Fossil B. DeSpiel's  
Masterpiece

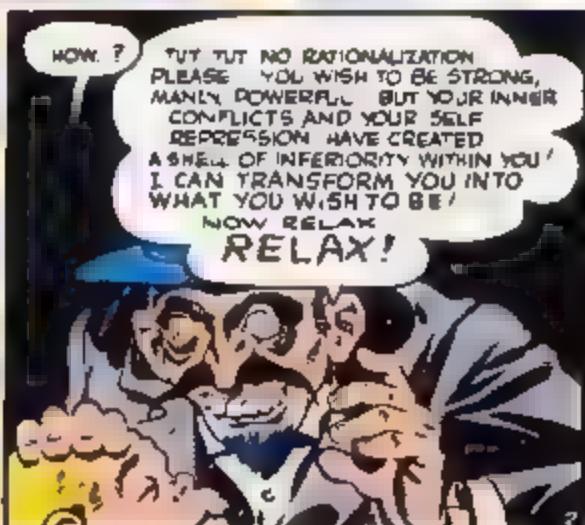
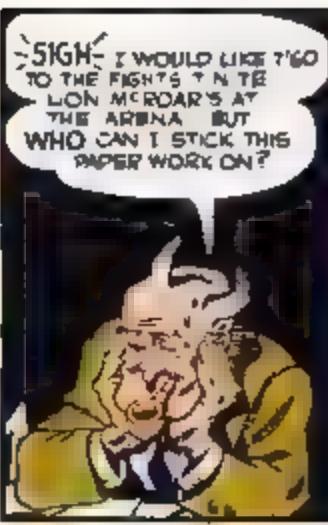
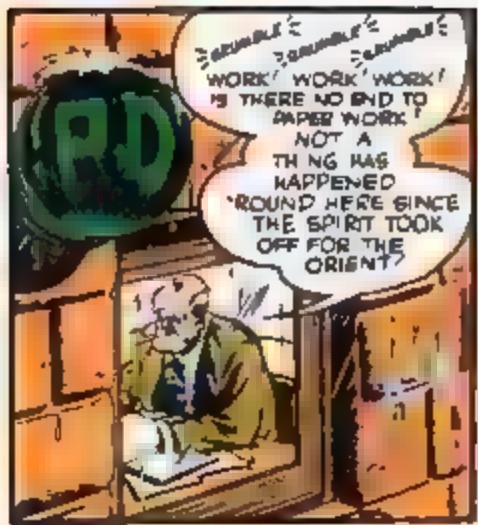
**Sammy  
and Delilah**  
in Glorious UGLACOLOR

BOLD!  
STARK!

FROM THE MAN WHO  
GAVE YOU  
"KISS OF CLEOPATRA"  
"SIN OF SALAMI"  
"DAUGHTER OF HELEN  
OF TROY'S SECOND  
COUSIN"  
"REAP THE WILD  
OATS"

Torn With Turbulent Tension  
Evening Express  
Palpitating With Puerile Passion  
Daily News  
Alive With Raw Reporter  
Review  
Stammering With Subtlety  
Journal

12<sup>TH</sup> WEEK!



TEN MINUTES LATER.

THAT'S IT! YOUR LIMBS ARE LOOSENING, THE ELECTRICITY OF YOUR INNER CIRCLE OF ENERGY IS BUBBLING WITH A RE-AWAKENED VIGOR!!

DO YOU FEEL THE DYNAMIC IMPULSES OF YOUR HIDDEN STRENGTH? YOU ARE STRONG.. YOU ARE DYNAMIC.. YOU ARE ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO BE!

GOT 'EM PERFESSION?



GOOD! NOW DOLAN AINT GOT NO EVIDENCE IN HIS CASE AGAINST ME! LET'S GO, DEL LAN. YOU GOT

SHOW TODD AT THE "PHILLY STEAMJU TEMPO TEMPLE"!

I AM STRONG.. I AM DYNAMIC.. I AM ALL I EVER WANTED TO BE!

PHILLY, DON'T LOOK NOW.. BUT WE GOT COMPANY!

I'LL SOON FIX DAT!!



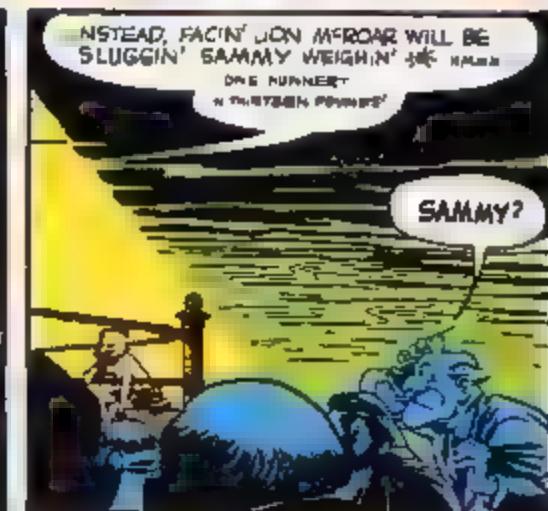
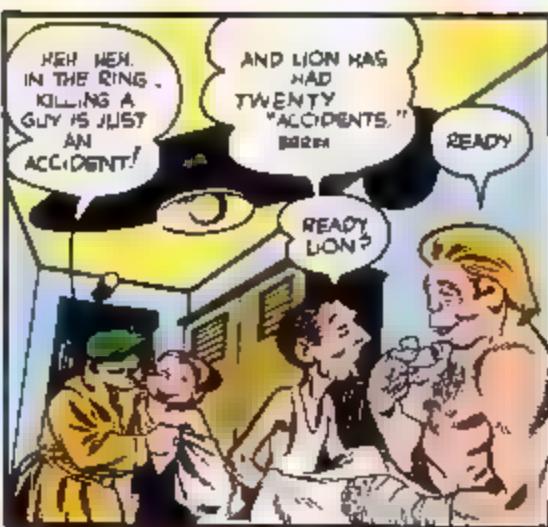
BONK!

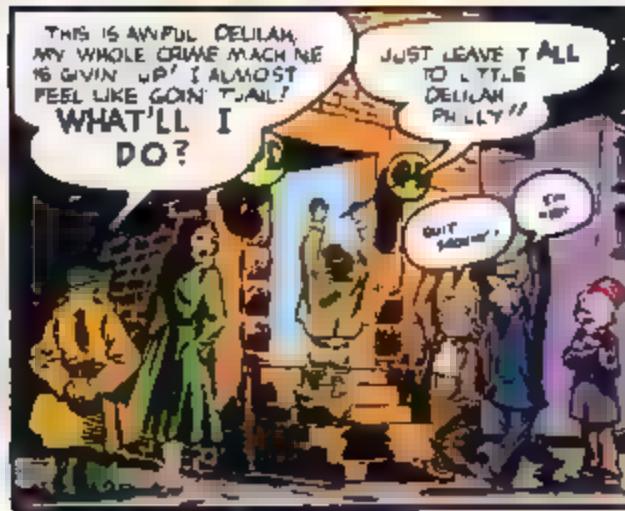
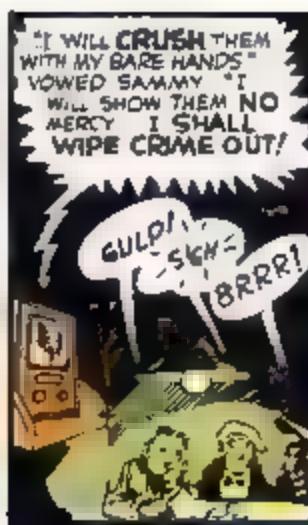
PHILLY STEAMJU STOLE PAPERS FROM DOLAN'S OFFICE. MUST STOP HIM.

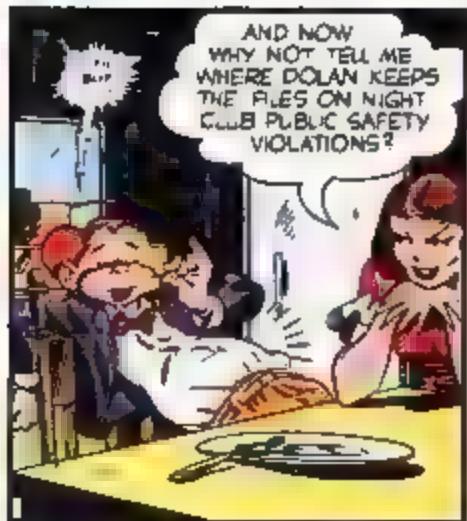
WHAT DO I ALWEZ DO WIT GUYS THAT KNOW TOO MUCH? I FERD 'EM TO THE LION HAW! HAW!

HE KNOWS, PHILLY! WHAT'LL YOU DO?









AND SO PHILLY STEAME'S  
TEMPO TEMPLE ONE HOUR LATER



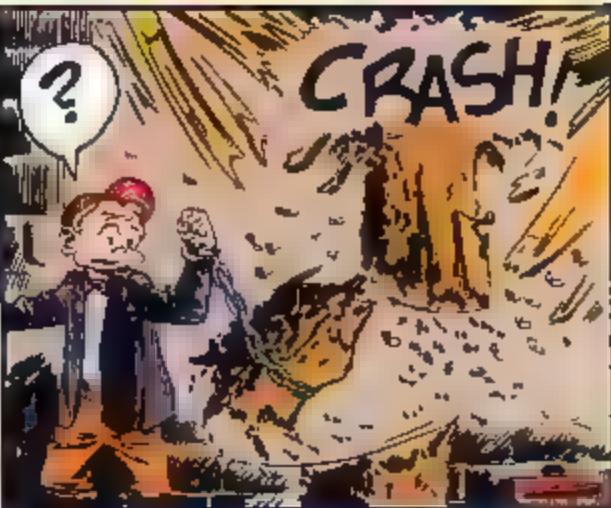
YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY WITH ANYTHING THIS JOINT IS NOT ONLY A FIRE TRAP BUT IT WILL COLLAPSE AT THE FIRST BIG WIND I'M NOT EVEN GOING TO PINCH YOU I'M GOING TO LET THIS PLACE CRASH N ON YOU

HAW

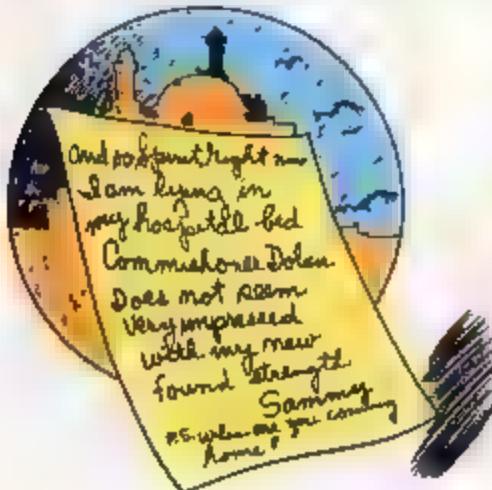


BETRAYED BY A WOMAN BLINDED TO MY DUTY BY LEMON MERINGUE PIE SOLD DOWN THE RIVER BY A SODA

WHEN I THINK OF IT I GET SO ANGRY I COULD ..



DAYS LATER. SOMEWHERE IN THE FAR EAST.





THE JEWEL  
OF GIZEH  
March 12, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

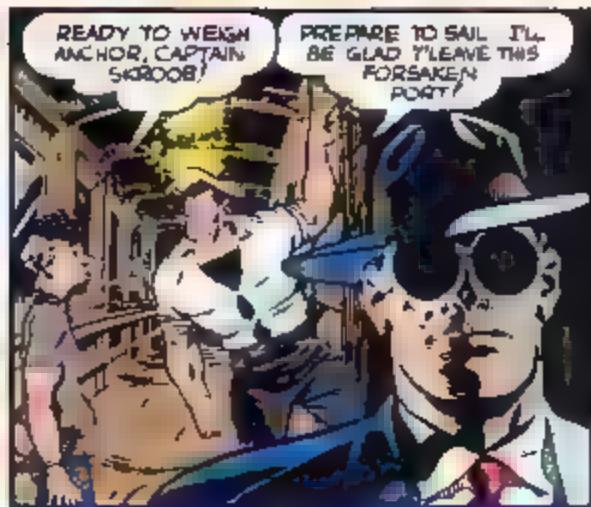
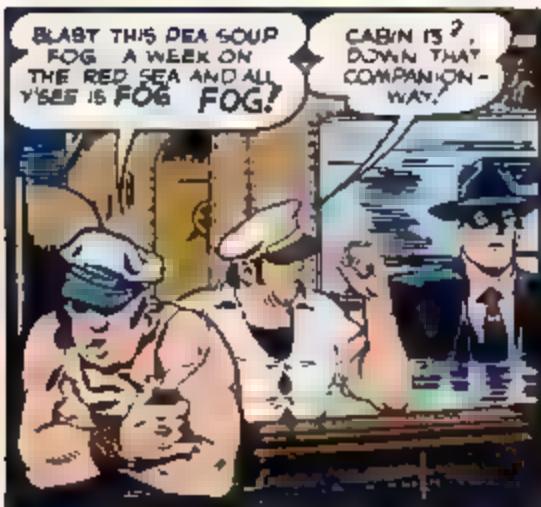
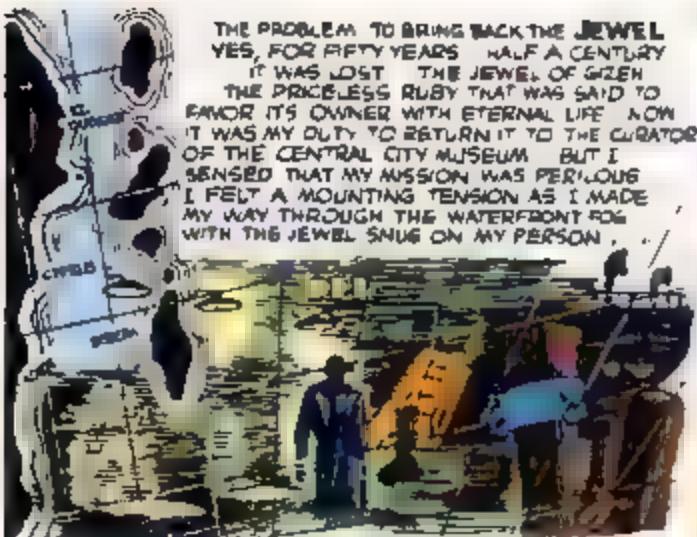


# the SPIRIT

BY WILL EISNER

$$\sqrt{\frac{3}{\text{THIEVES}} + \frac{1}{\text{TREASURE}} + \frac{1}{\text{GREED}}} = \text{THE SPIRIT}$$

IN THE ALGEBRA OF CRIME THERE IS  
NO MORE DEADLY EQUATION THAN THIS



FOUR DAYS OUT OF EL DUCHEER  
FOUR DAYS OF CONSTANT RAIN THE  
FOG HAD LIFTED TO A LIGHT MIST AND  
ALL THIS TIME I HAD KEPT TO MY CABIN.

SOMETIMES THROUGH THE  
PAPER-THIN WALLS I COULD  
HEAR THE VOICES OF MY  
FELLOW PASSENGERS.

TWO PEOPLE MAN AND  
WOMAN AND SHE  
SOUNDS FAMILIAR MAYBE  
MY LYING LOW WAS WISER  
THAN I THOUGHT



THE FOLLOWING NIGHT I LEFT MY CABIN  
FOR THE FIRST TIME

'EVENIN CAPTAIN  
SKROOB'

EVENIN  
HOW D'YA LIKE  
TH' TRIP?  
MUST GET PRETTY  
CLOSE IN YOUR  
CABIN ALL THE  
TIME!

ON THE CONTRARY MY PORTHOLE  
FACES OUT IN THIS DIRECTION  
EVERY NIGHT I CAN LOOK OUT AND  
SEE THE MOON.. HEY!

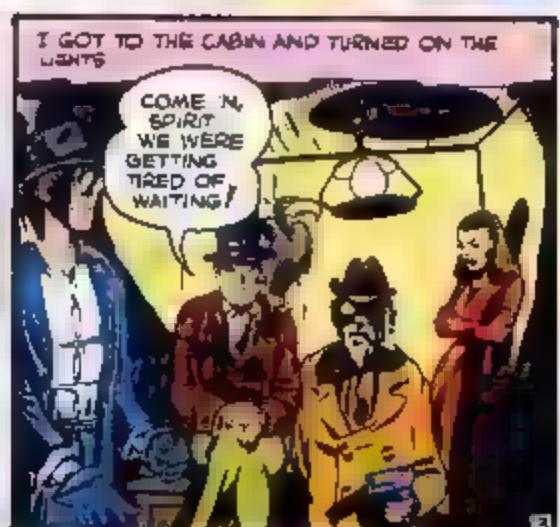
SOMETHIN'  
WRONG,  
MISTER?

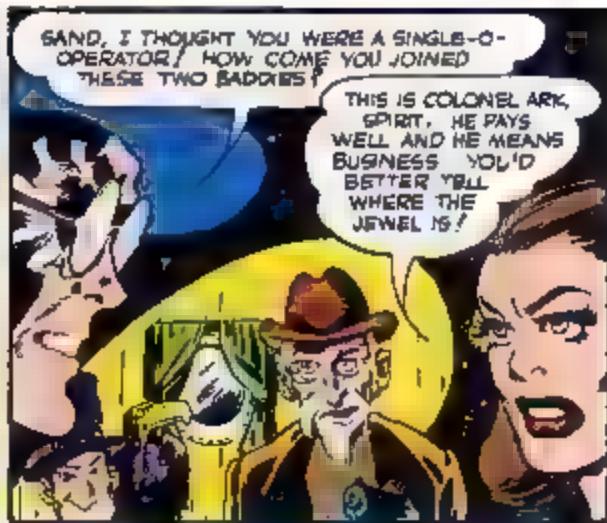
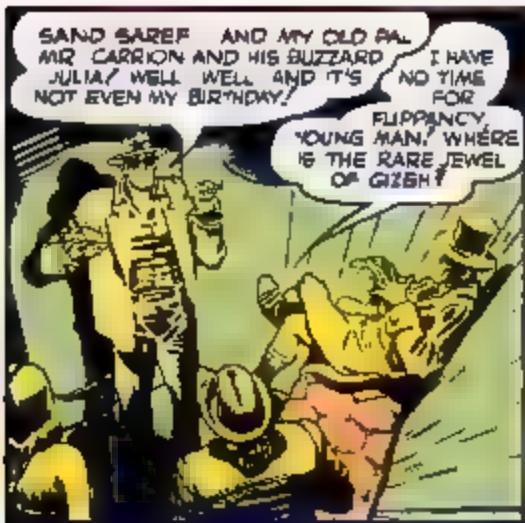


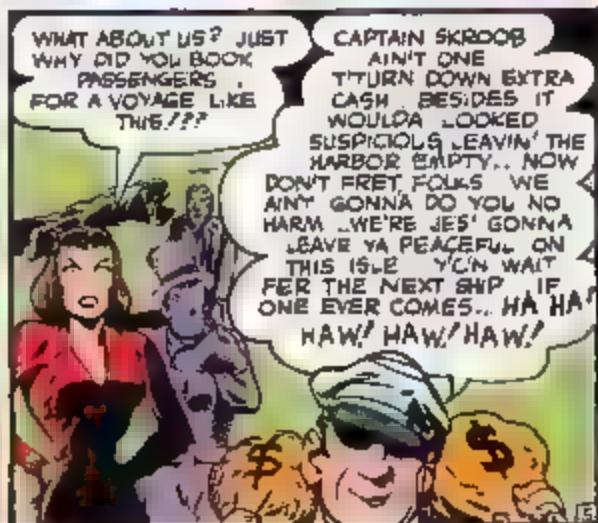
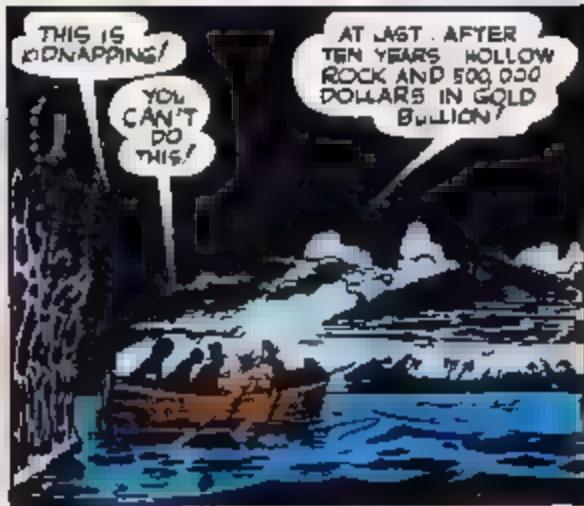
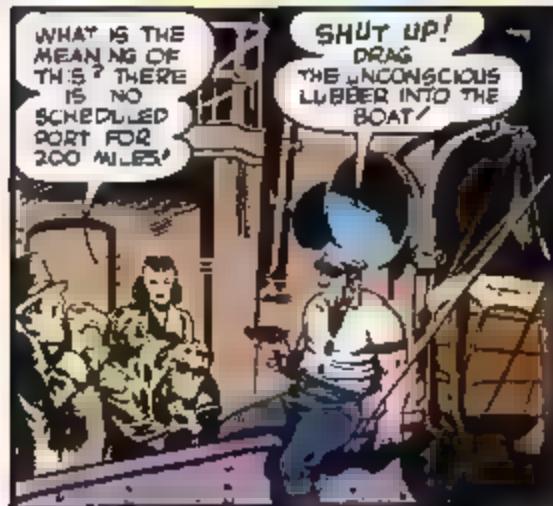
THE MOON WE SHOULD  
BE FACING THE MOON!  
WE'VE CHANGED  
COURSE!

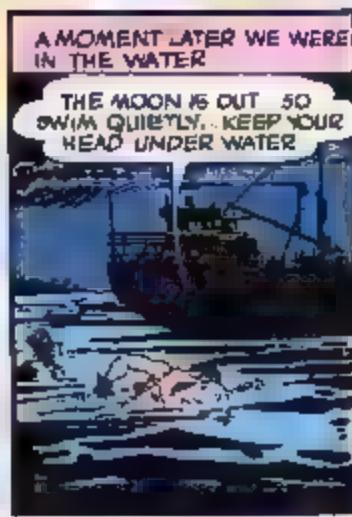
BETTER GO BACK  
TO YER CABIN  
THE DECK IS PRETTY  
SLIPPERY FROM THE  
RAIN Y'IGHT FALL OVERBOARD

I GOT TO THE CABIN AND TURNED ON THE  
LIGHTS









SKROOB DUCKED INTO THE HOLD FIRING SHOTS AT ME AS I FOLLOWED

AND THEN... IN THE NEXT FIVE SECONDS EVERYTHING HAPPENED



SPIRIT...SPIRIT. WHERE ARE YOU?.. THE SHIP IS ON FIRE!



THERE IT GOES. THE "ISLAND QUEEN" AND ITS CARGO OF GOLD!

THERE GOES OUR PASSAGE HOME THIS ISLAND IS OFF THE REGULAR SHIPPING LANES SO IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO BE HERE FOR SOME TIME WAITING FOR A "HITCH!"

THAT WHOLE SHIP AND ITS CREW DESTROYED CAP'N SKROOB NEVER KNEW THAT THE FAKE FIRE REPORT HE FILED WOULD COME TRUE TEN YEARS LATER!



TO BE CONTINUED



CARRION

March 19, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

DATELINE:MARCH 26...AB'D TRAMP STEAMER "ISLAND QUEEN"

LEFT RED SEA ISLAND PORT OF ELQUOSIER 8 A.M. #3/19/50



Zanzibar

Dar es Salaam

DESTINATION \*\*\*CENTRAL\*\*\* CITY, USA



Abu Dhabi

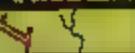
Alexandria

MISSING... BELIEVED TO HAVE FOUNDERED OR OFF COURSE



Mozambique

PASSENGER LIST FILED WITH EAST AFRICAN AUTHORITIES



LISTS ONLY THREE...SAND SAREF, COLONEL ARK, MR. CARRION...

Dubrovnik

PORT WORKER REVEALED TODAY THAT HE SAW MASKED MAN



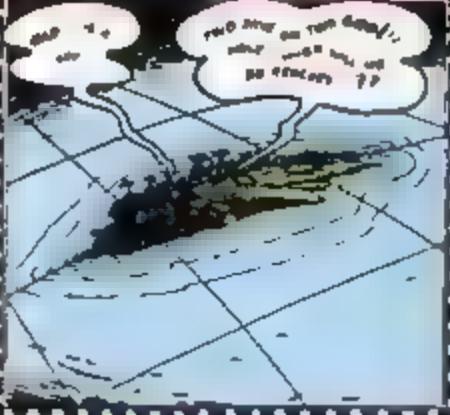
EMBARK SAME VESSEL...BELIEVED TO BE THE SPIRIT

Indian Ocean

Port Dauphin



NOON AT AN UNKNOWN LATITUDE  
INTERSECTED BY AN UNKNOWN  
LONGITUDE



"BAM! ON THE GROUND,  
WE'RE GOING TO BE STUCK FOR A DAY!"

WE NEVER WOULD HAVE BEEN IN THIS  
MESS IF COLONEL ARK HADN'T GOTTHEN  
THE BRIGHT IDEA OF STEALING THE  
JEWEL OF GIBRIN FROM  
THE SPIRIT!

MR CARRION  
AND HIS  
SHOT UP  
BUZZARD.  
JULIA THE  
DEADLY COLONEL ARK  
THE NOTORIOUS SAND  
SAREF AND THE SPIRIT AS  
UNLIKELY A BAND OF ALLIES  
AS I'D EVER IMAGINE!

"BAM! HOW WAS I TO KNOW THAT BEASTLY SHIP  
CAPTAIN WOULD TRY TO KILL US ALL? I HOPE  
HE'S CONTENT WITH HIS PIRATE GOLD  
BOTH AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA"

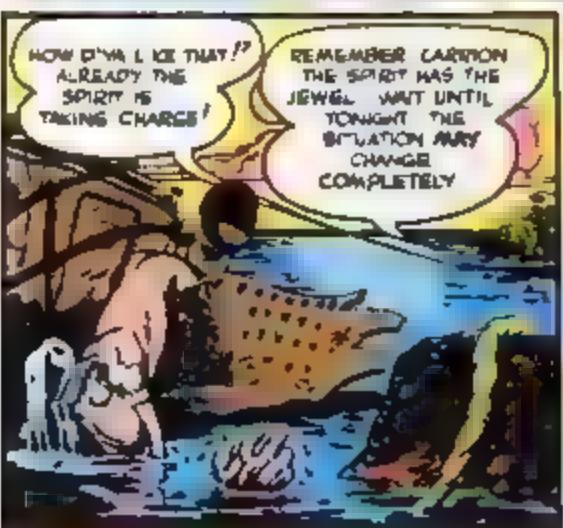


NOON ...AND THE LIMP REMAINS OF THE  
"ISLAND QUEEN" QUIVER DESPAIRINGLY ON  
THE O'ROULY PROJEK.



"HOW D'YA LIKE THAT?"  
"ALREADY THE  
SPIRIT IS  
TAKING CHARGE!"

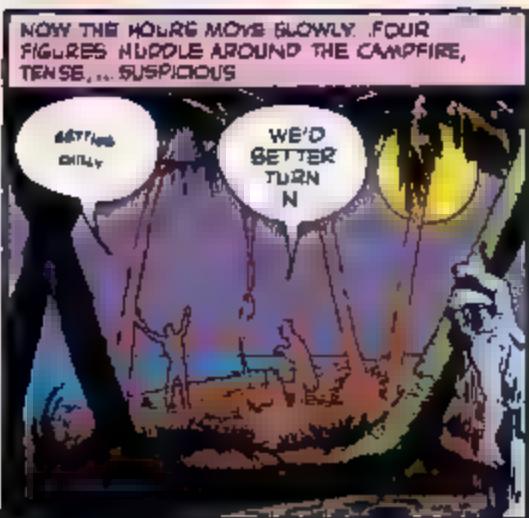
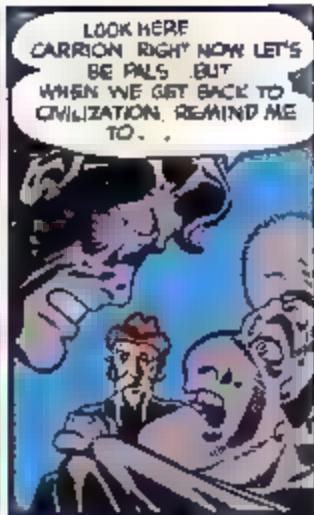
REMEMBER CARRION  
THE SPIRIT HAS THE  
JEWEL WAIT UNTIL  
TONIGHT THE  
SITUATION MAY  
CHANGE  
COMPLETELY

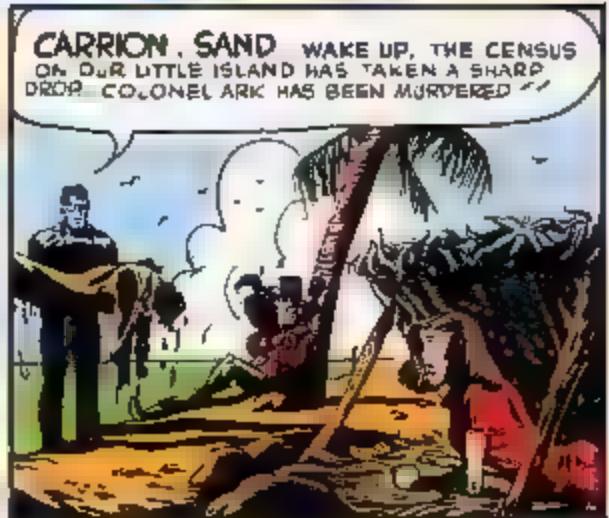
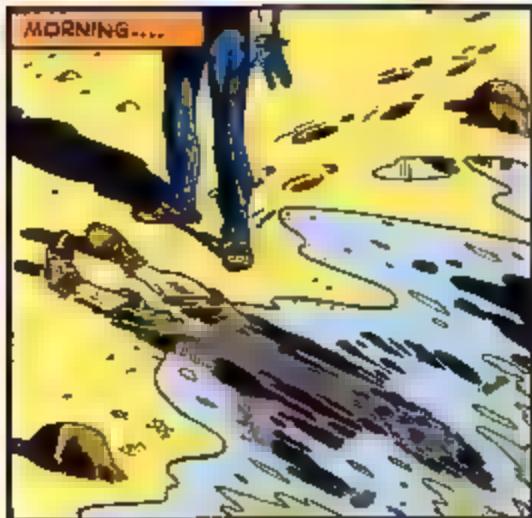
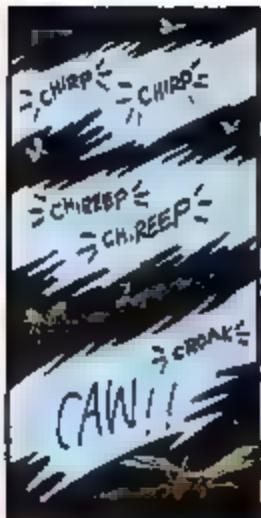


HOURS OF WORK CUTTING DOWN SAPLINGS  
WITH PEN KNIVES FORMING SHELTERS WITH BEDS  
OF LEAVES GATHERING THE FRUIT OF THE TREES  
THE SMALL GAME OF THE FOREST AND SHORE AND  
THE FISH OF THE SEA AND THEN NIGHTFALL AND  
A BLAZING CAMPFIRE.

THIS IS OUR SITUATION WE  
HAVE NO IDEA OF WHERE WE ARE CAPTAIN  
SKROOB TOOK US WAY OFF COURSE TO GET  
HERE WE'RE OFF REGULAR SHIPPIN JAMES  
AND WE DON'T KNOW HOW  
FAR AWAY THE NEAREST  
POPULATED ISLAND IS.







TEN MINUTES LATER

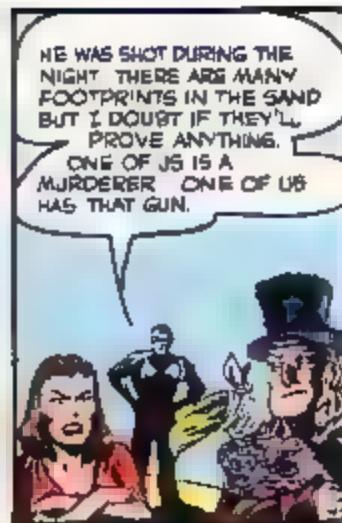
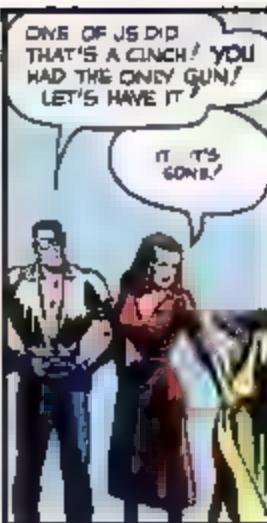
SHOT IN THE STOMACH! LOOKS LIKE  
ONLY ONE BULLET. A NEAT JOB!!  
LET'S HAVE YOUR GUN, SAND!

I DIDN'T  
DO THIS!!

ONE OF US DID  
THAT'S A CINCH! YOU  
HAD THE ONLY GUN!  
LET'S HAVE IT!

IT IS  
GONE!!

HE WAS SHOT DURING THE  
NIGHT. THERE ARE MANY  
FOOTPRINTS IN THE SAND  
BUT I DOUBT IF THEY'LL  
PROVE ANYTHING.  
ONE OF US IS A  
MURDERER. ONE OF US  
HAS THAT GUN.



THE TIDE ROLLS IN. THE SUN MOVES INTO  
THE WEST. IT IS AFTERNOON.

ANYBODY  
FEEL LIKE  
TALKING?

SURE  
ANOTHER  
HOT DAY  
EASY, JULIA,  
MY DARLING.  
BYE.

LEAVE  
ME  
ALONE!

CAW!



HEY SPIRIT,  
OUT THERE? THE  
WRECK OF THE  
ISLAND QUEEN?

LOOK

I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN. THE  
SUN IS REFLECTING OFF  
SOMETHING. IT'S MOVING  
BACK AND FORTH. IT  
MIGHT BE JUST A TIN CAN!

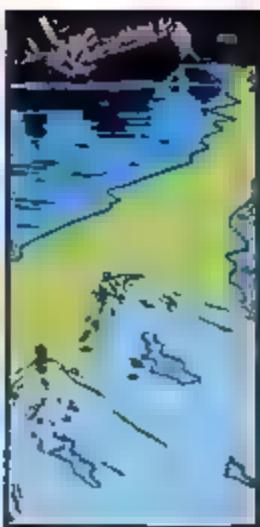
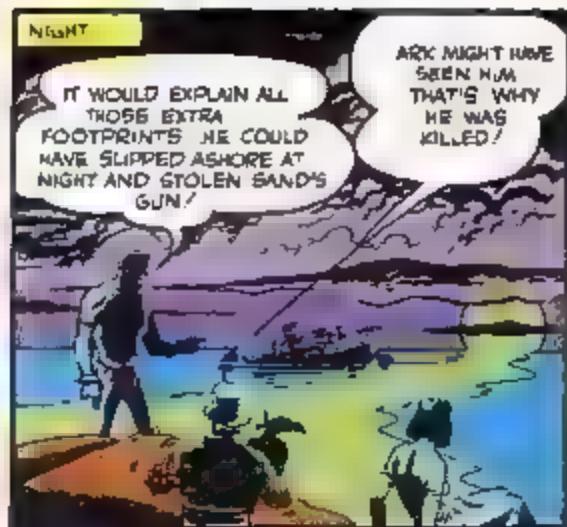
.OR IT MIGHT  
BE A MAN!

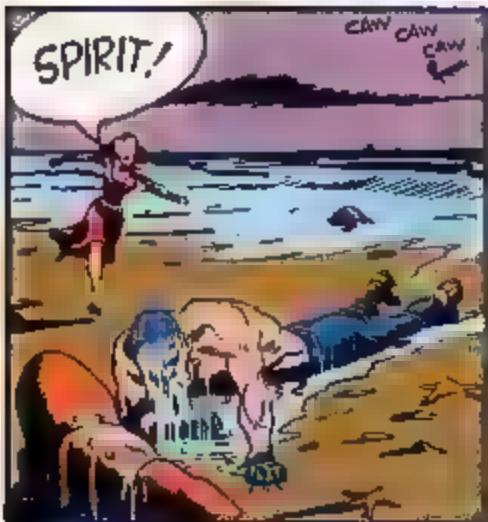
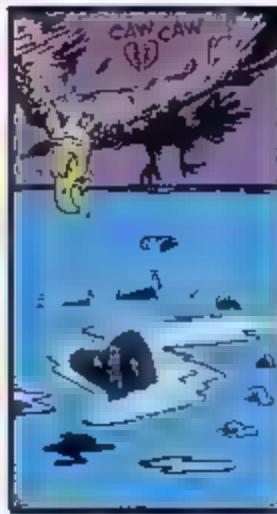
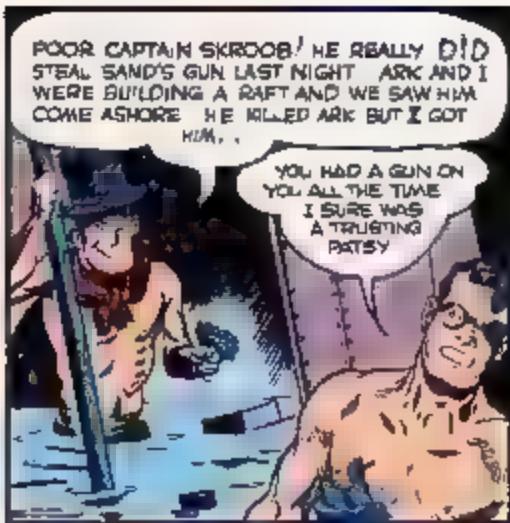


JUST WHAT I WAS THINKING...  
MAYBE CAPTAIN SKROOB  
ISN'T AS DEAD AS WE  
THOUGHT. IT'LL  
BE DARK IN TWO HOURS.  
LET'S WAIT.



NIGHT







## THE ISLAND

March 26, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

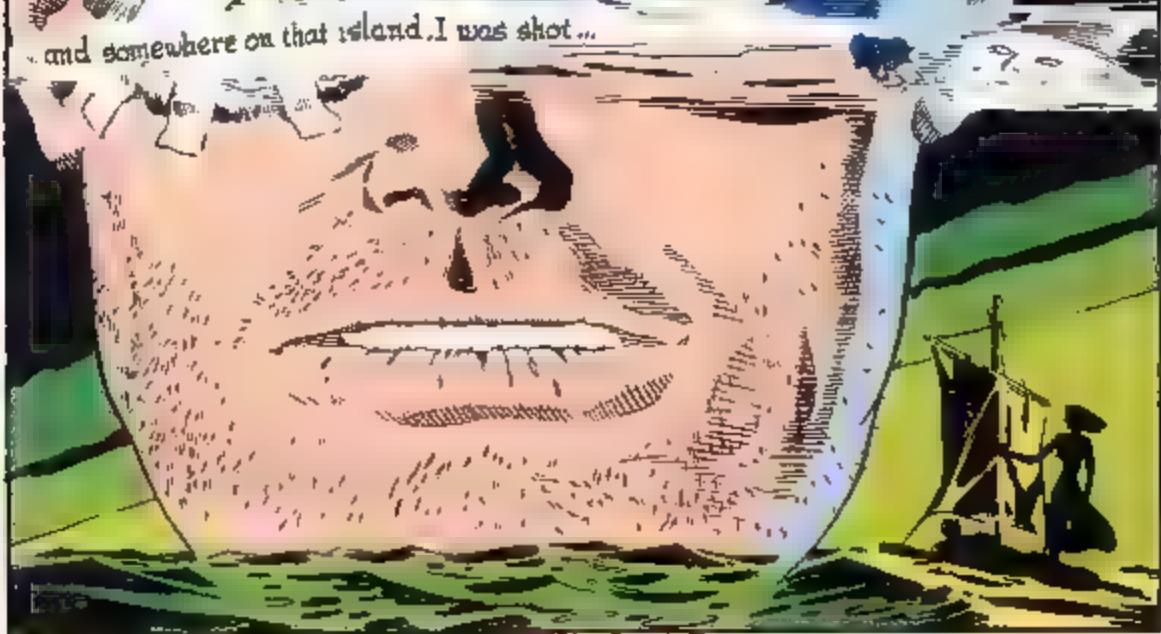
I'm... wounded... I can remember it all quite easily... we were marooned... there was Mr. Curran... Col. Ark... and Sand...

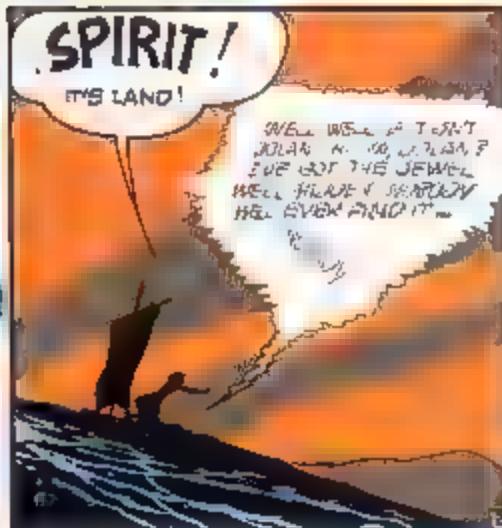
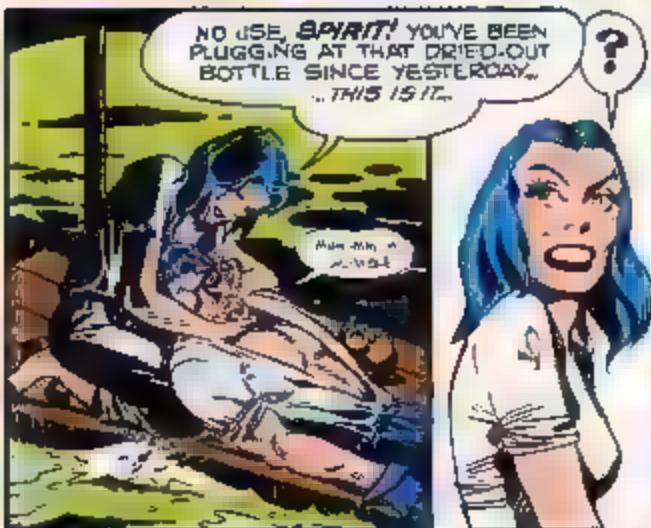
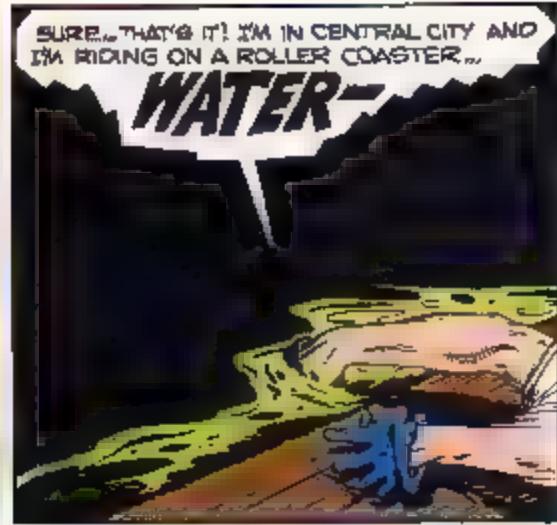
I can remember... it started with the JEWEL OF GIZEH... trying to bring it home... ship sunk... and this, too, I remember... that I, Denny Colt, am...

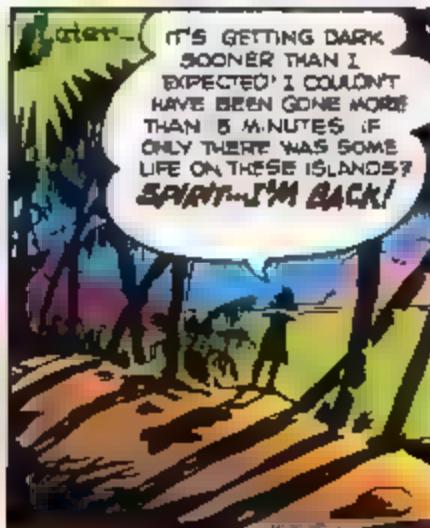
# The SPIRIT

BY WILL EISNER

and somewhere on that island I was shot...



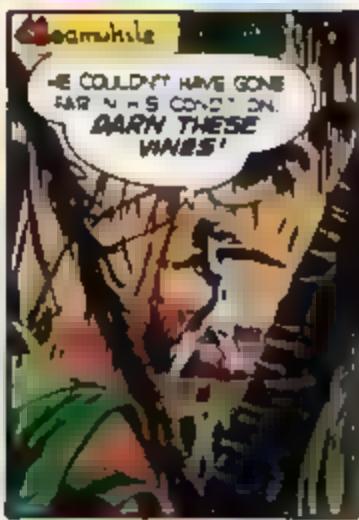
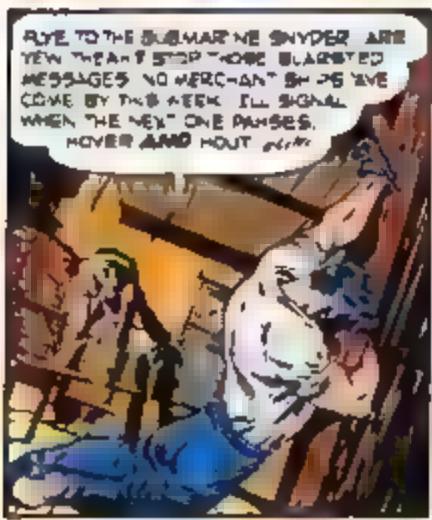




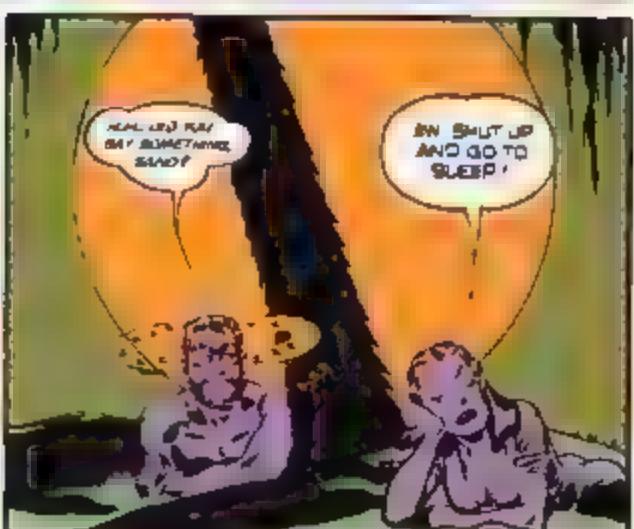
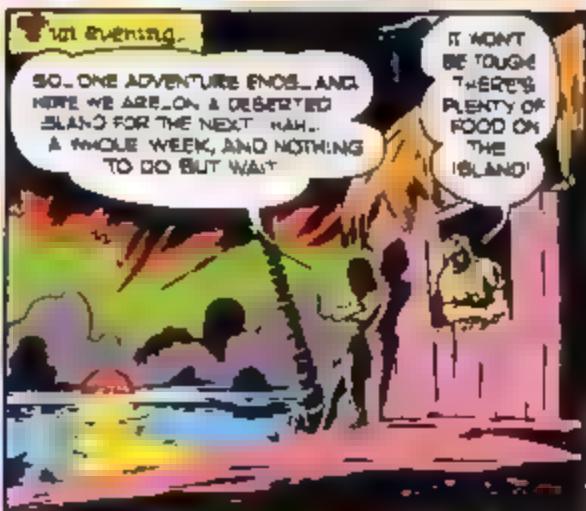
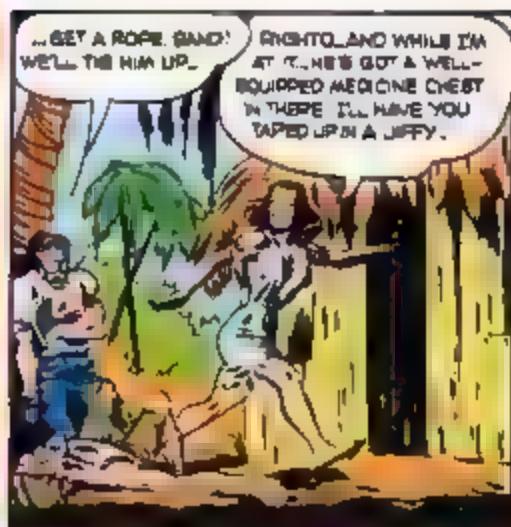
# HEAT

SOMEWHERE ON THE ISLAND THE  
SPIRIT GROPS THROUGH THE  
JUNGLE









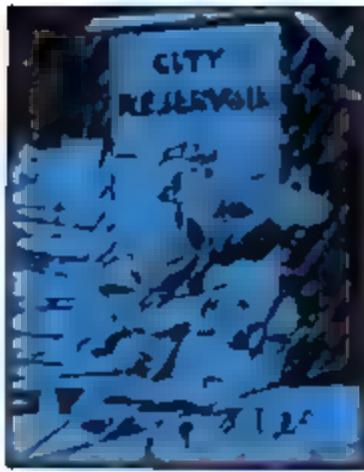


## WATER

April 2, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



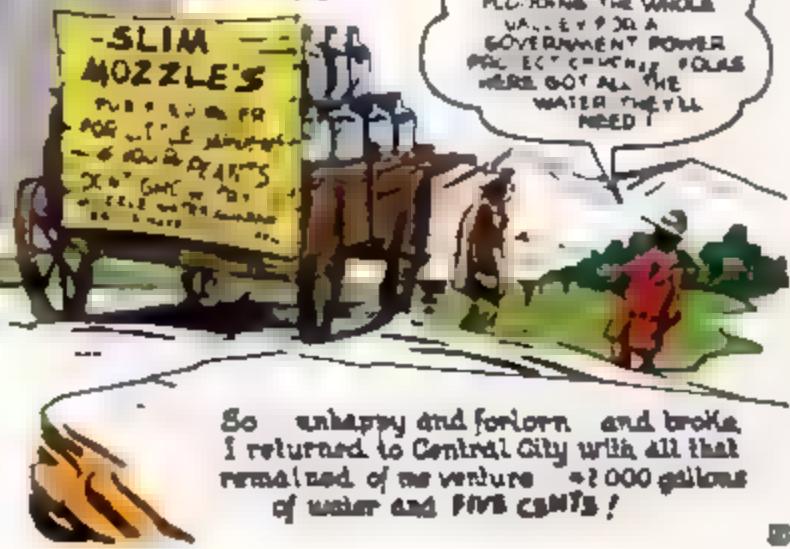


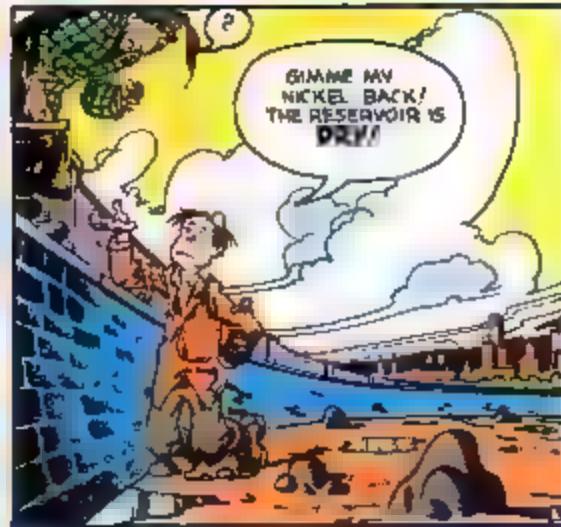
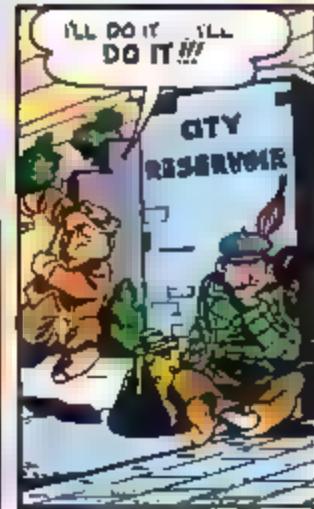
MY NAME  
IS  
MOZZLE  
SLIM MOZZLE

And you might say that me chief claim  
to fame is **HARD LUCK!**  
The day I got married I lost my job  
I was on every shipping list in the  
army (even went to Korea)  
My wife left me and as a last  
resort I invested all me life savings  
(including my kids) in a sure-  
fire scheme.

**BUT...**

SORRY, BUT THEY'RE  
PLUTOING THE WHOLE  
VALLEY FOR A  
GOVERNMENT POWER  
PLANT CHICKEN POLES  
WERE GOT ALL THE  
WATER THEY'LL  
NEED!





YES... DRY... DRY... THE RESERVOIR WAS DRY!... OVER CENTRAL CITY AND AT THAT MOMENT ALL A FRIGHTENING THING WAS HAPPENING!



NATURALLY MY BUSINESS WAS AN INSTANT SUCCESS!

NO SHOVIN'  
WE GOT PLENTY  
LEFT!

MOZZLE'S  
WATERTERIA

THAT'S  
FOR ONE  
DROP  
TWO DROPS  
COST TEN  
BUCKS!

HERE'S  
MY  
FIVE  
BUCKS!



WELL, RUDOLF  
OL BOY HERE WE ARE  
AT THE THRESHOLD  
OF A FORTUNE! LUCK  
IS WITH ME  
AT LAST!

UGH!  
40,073 GAL-  
LONS OF  
WATER LEFT!  
IS GOOD  
PROFITS.

WE ONLY MADE A FEW  
BUCKS, BUT TOMORROW  
WE REALLY CASH IN  
NOW. TONIGHT I'VE GOT  
SOMETHING TO DO  
SEE YOU HERE  
TOMORROW!

YEH ME  
TOO I GOT  
SOMETHNG  
TO DO  
GOO' NIGHT!



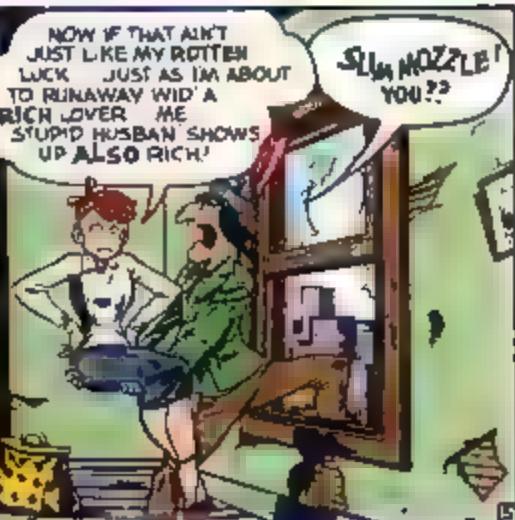
SHOOLY!

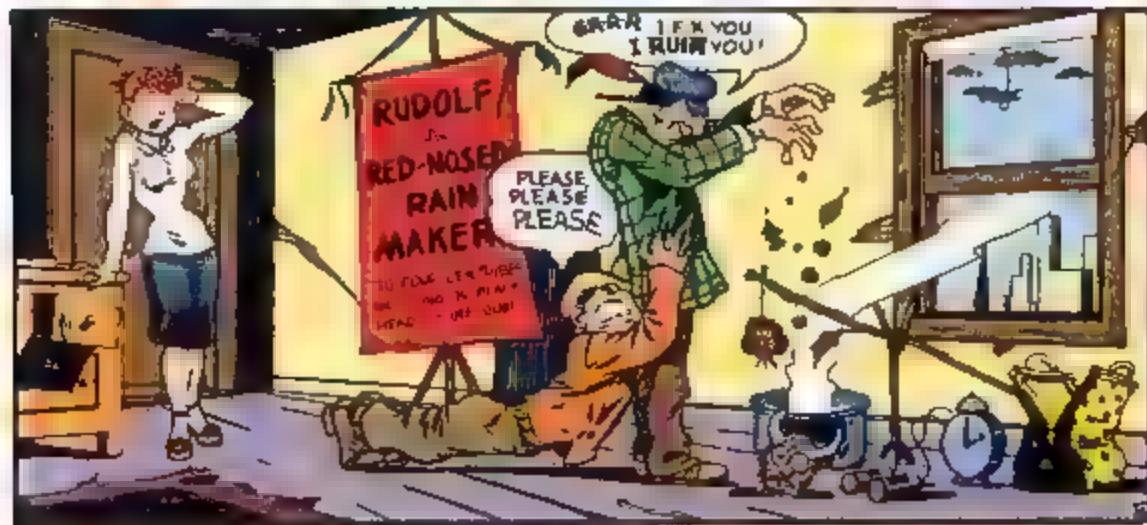
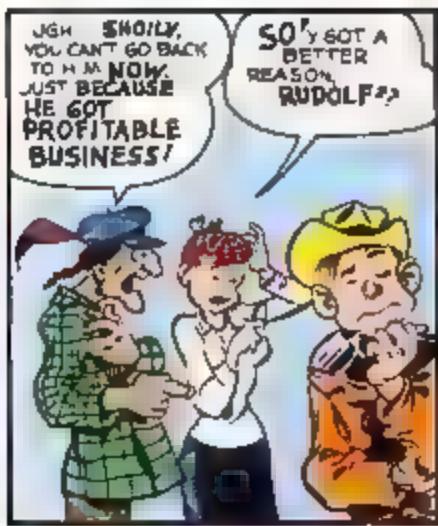
I'M  
HOME AND THIS  
TIME I'M REALLY  
RICH!! BY  
TOMORROW  
WE'LL BE  
WORTH A  
HALF MILLION  
BUCKS!

RUDOLF!!  
YOU ??

NOW IF THAT AIN'T  
JUST LIKE MY ROTTEN  
LUCK. JUST AS I'M ABOUT  
TO RUNAWAY WID' A  
RICH LOVER ME  
STUPID HUSBAN SHOWS  
UP ALSO RICH!

SUM MOZZLE!  
YOU ??









## RESCUE

April 9, 1960

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

**A**LL OVER THE WORLD THERE ARE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS CALLED "HAMS". THESE HOBBYISTS OPERATE PRIVATELY OWNED RADIO SENDING AND RECEIVING SETS THAT ARE VERY OFTEN HAND-MADE OR VARYING POWER. AT ANY TIME OF THE DAY OR NIGHT THERE IS SOMEWHERE A "HAM" CALLING ANOTHER, THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY... SIGNALLING NEWS... CALLING FOR AID... AND RELAYING MESSAGES TO LOVED ONES....

TWO DAYS AGO, SOMEWHERE IN BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ONE SUCH "HAM" THREW HIS SET'S TRANSMITTER TO "ON" AND BEGAN SEARCHING THE ETHER FOR CONTACT...



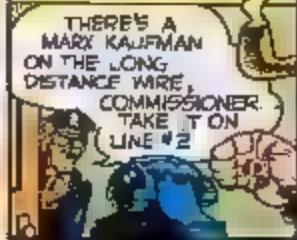
THIS IS W3IVC  
THREE- TEN- UNCLE  
CHARLIE  
CALLING C.Q.  
COME IN SOME-  
ONE, PLEASE!

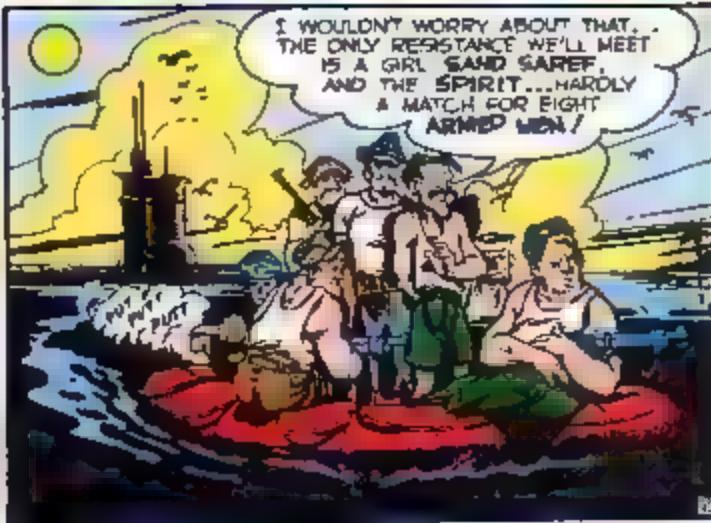
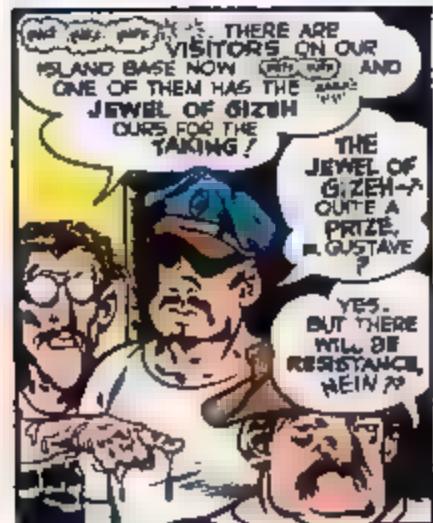
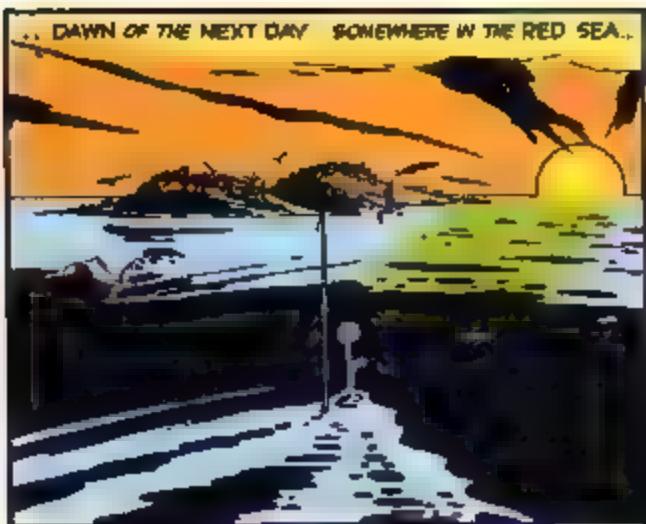


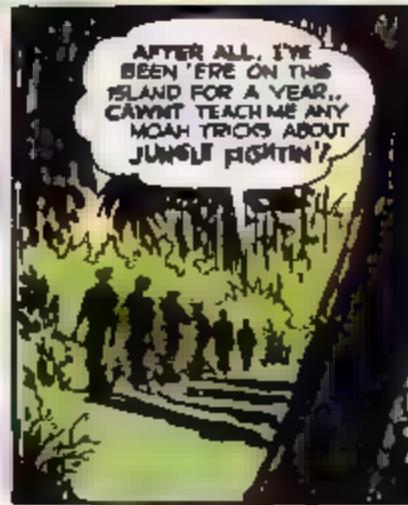
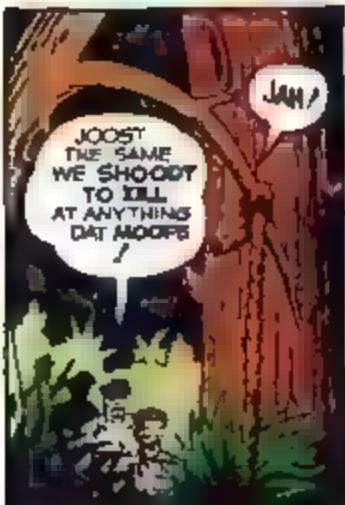
AND SOMEWHERE FROM THE INDIAN OCEAN CAME A FAINT REPLY:

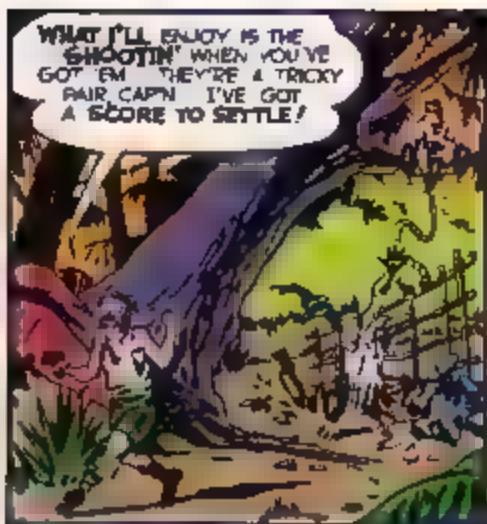


AND TWENTY MINUTES LATER, IN CENTRAL CITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

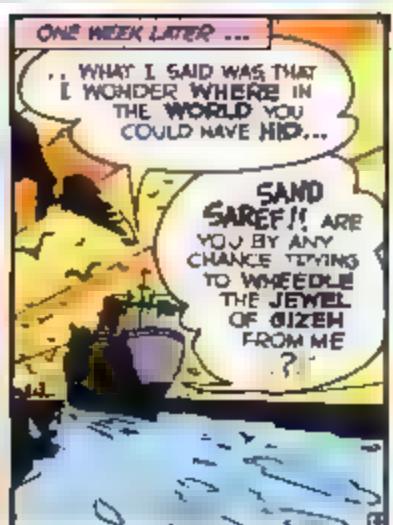
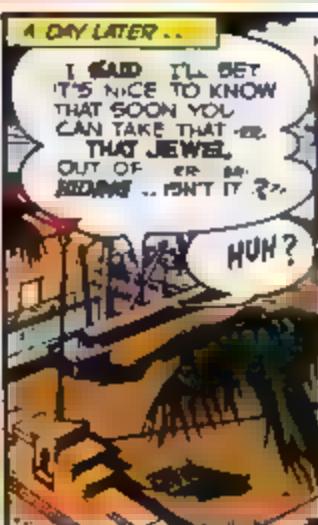




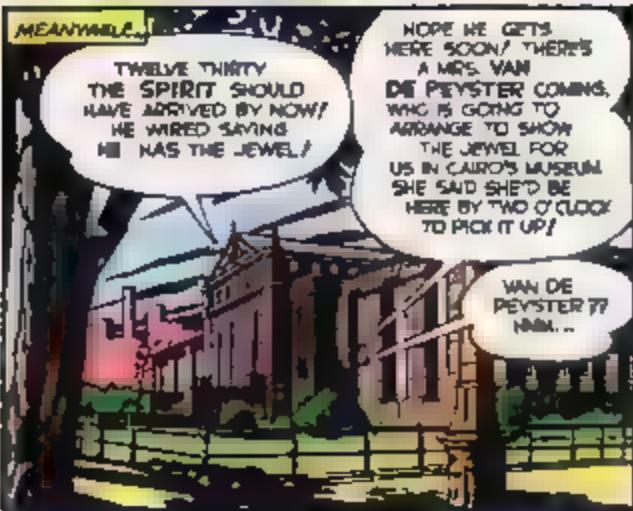
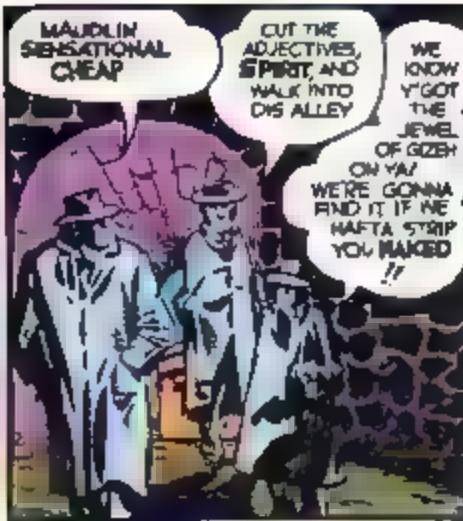


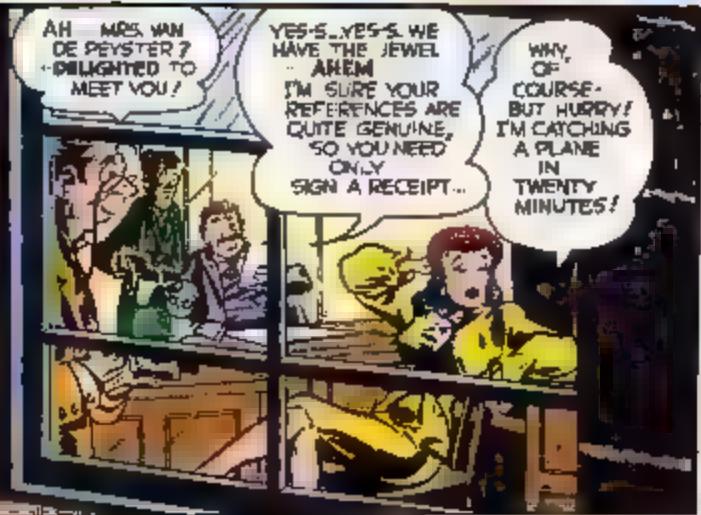
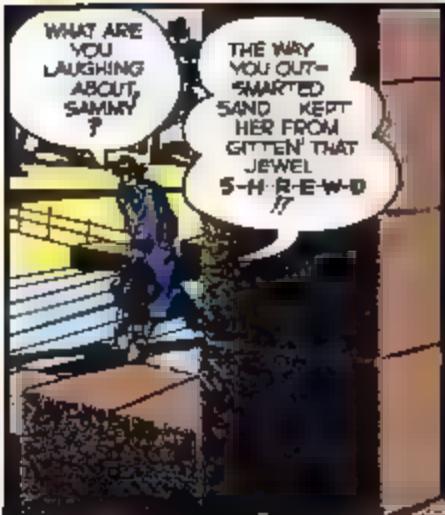


IT'S THE ONE I RADIOED! SOON WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY BACK TO CIVILIZATION!!







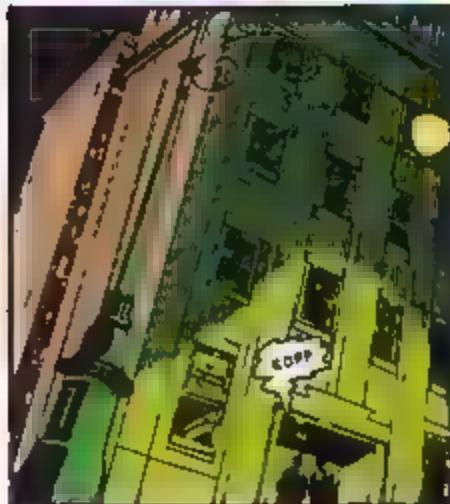
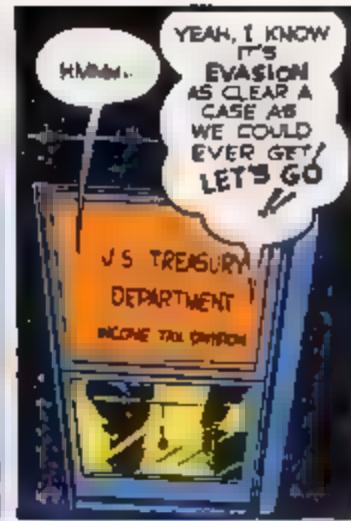


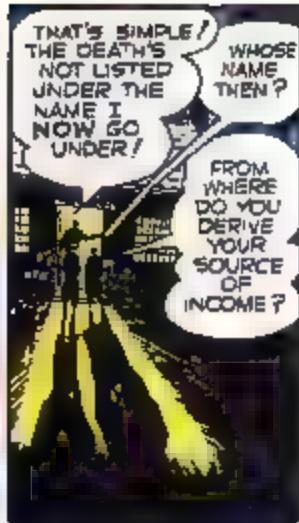


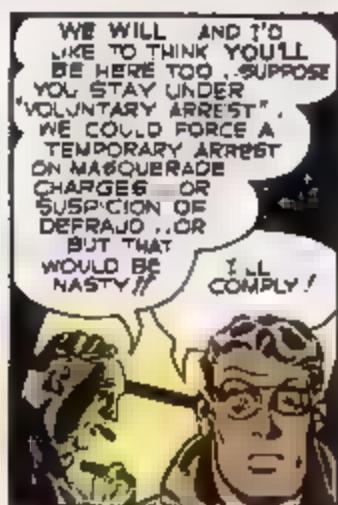
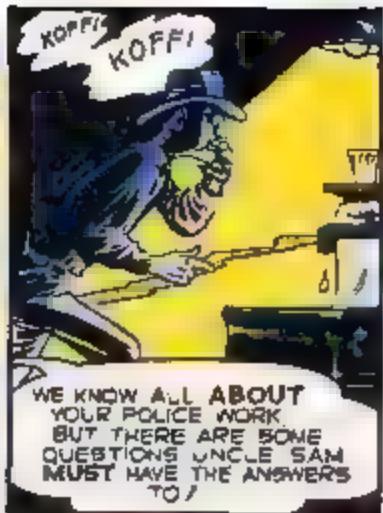
## **TAXES AND THE SPIRIT**

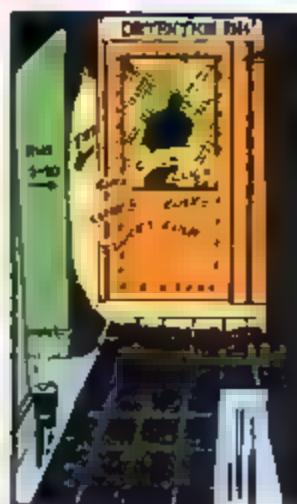
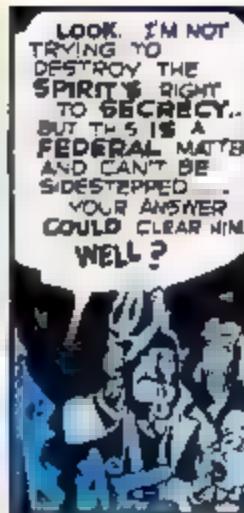
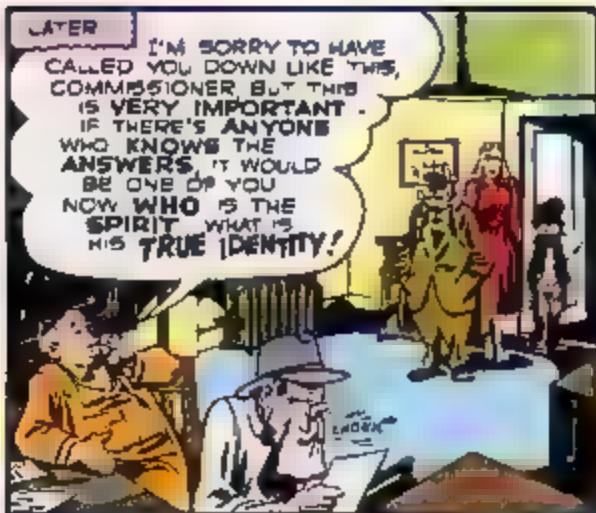
April 16, 1950

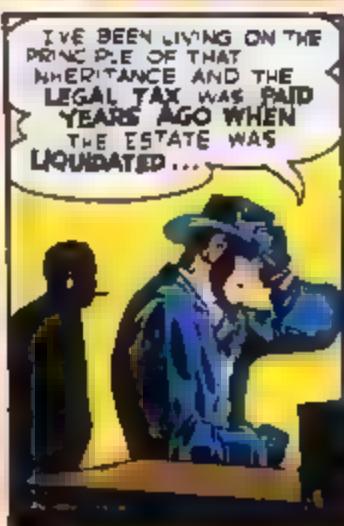
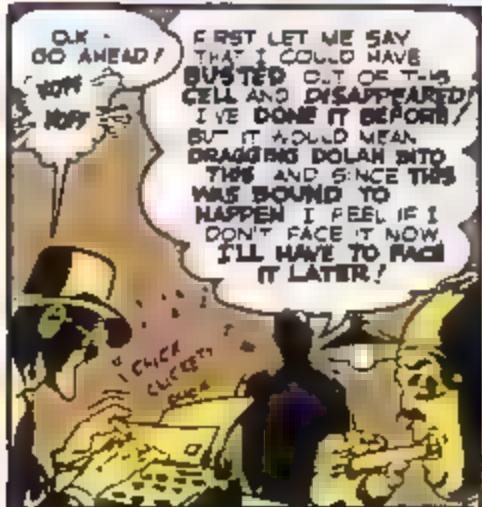
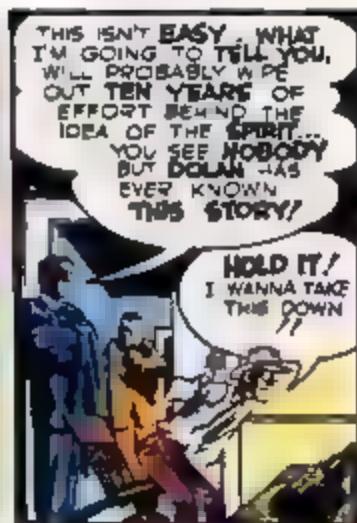
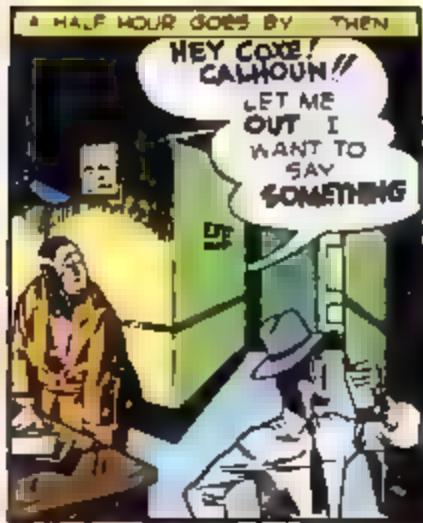
**ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE**















## A DAY AT THE ZOO

April 23, 1950

**ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE**

4A<sup>3</sup>  
Mrs Karns

Milton  
English

### Composition

#### My Day at the Zoo

Today I went to the zoo. I had an exciting day at the zoo. I went with my English teacher Mrs. Karns. The whole class went. Mrs. Karns told the class to write a composition about our experiences at the zoo. This is what #0 my experience was at the zoo.

Mrs Karns told us to bring our lunch. I had chopped liver and bacon sandwich. I also had an tomato

NOW STAND IN LINE,  
CHILDREN AND HOLD HANDS!  
WE DON'T WANT TO GET  
SEPARATED, DO WE?

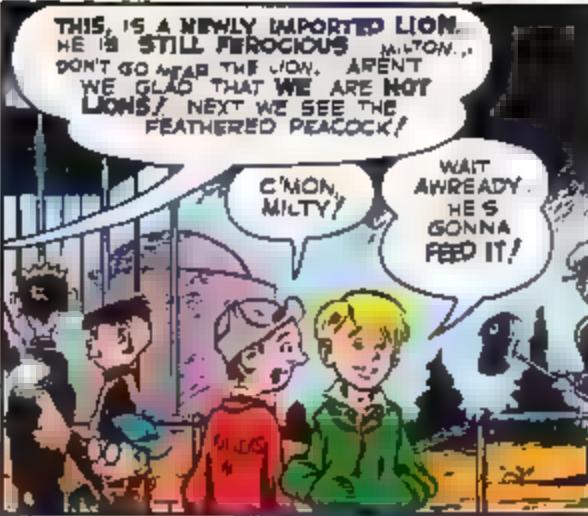


We came to the zoo about eleven o'clock. It was nice. I liked the zoo.

THIS IS AN AFRICAN LION. THE LION IS THE KING OF BEASTS AND IS THE LARGEST MEMBER OF THE CAT FAMILY. HE CAN'T CLIMB TREES LIKE MOST CATS! COME AWAY FROM THE CAGE, MILTON!

THIS IS A NEWLY IMPORTED LION. HE IS STILL FEROCIOUS. MILTON, DON'T GO NEAR THE LION. AREN'T WE GLAD THAT WE ARE NOT LIONS? NEXT WE SEE THE FEATHERED PEACOCK!

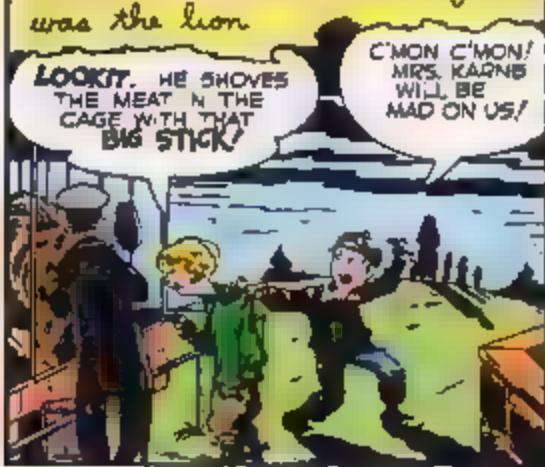
WAIT AWREADY. HE'S GONNA FEED IT!



What I liked the most of all was the lion.

LOOKIT. HE SHOVES THE MEAT IN THE CAGE WITH THAT BIG STICK!

C'MON C'MON! MRS. KARNS WILL BE MAD ON US!



HEY!..HE LEFT THE STICK! I'M GONNA SHOW THAT OLD LION A THING OR TWO!

C'MON, I'M GOING!

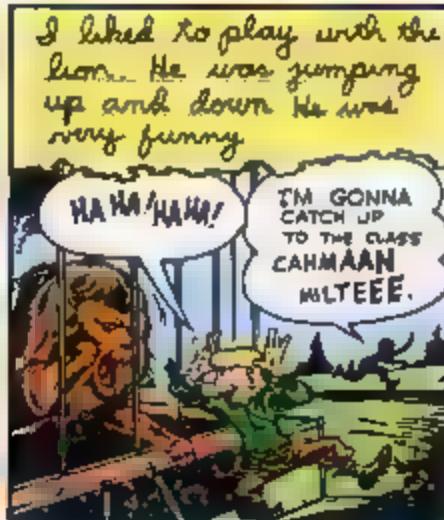


DON'T, MILTY!  
HE'S MAD!  
GIVE HIM BACK HIS MEAT!

I liked to play with the lion. He was jumping up and down. He was very funny.

HA HA HAHA!

I'M GONNA CATCH UP TO THE CLASS CAHMAAN MILTEEEE.

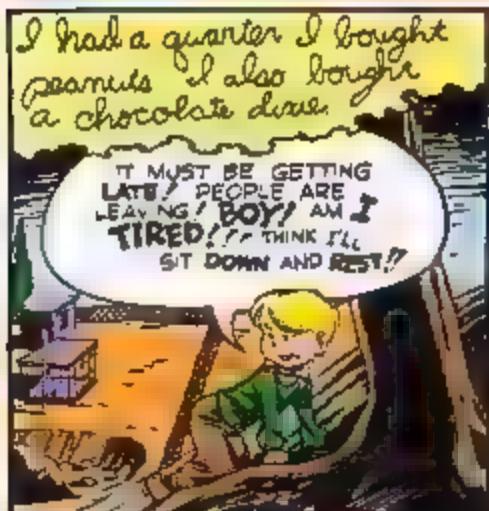
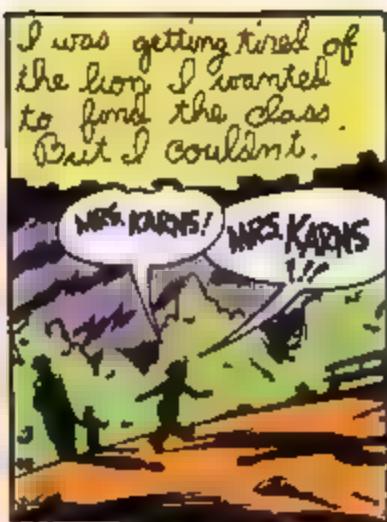


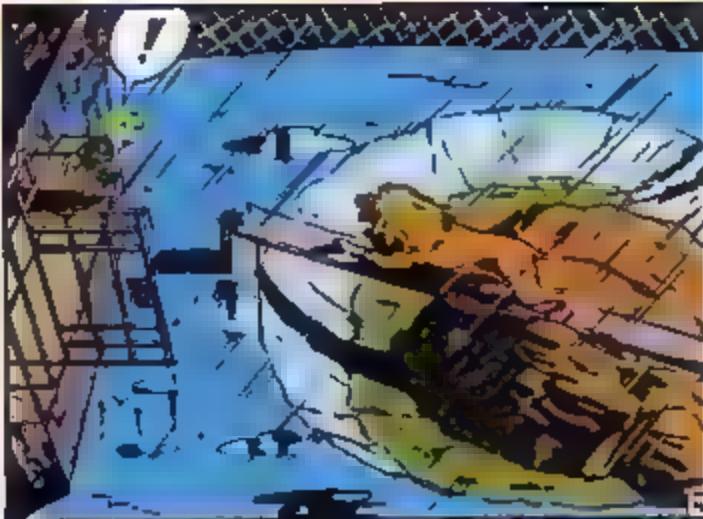
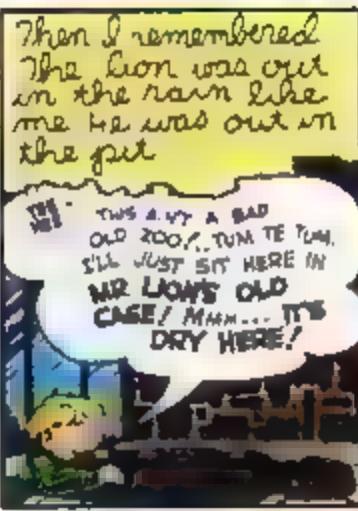
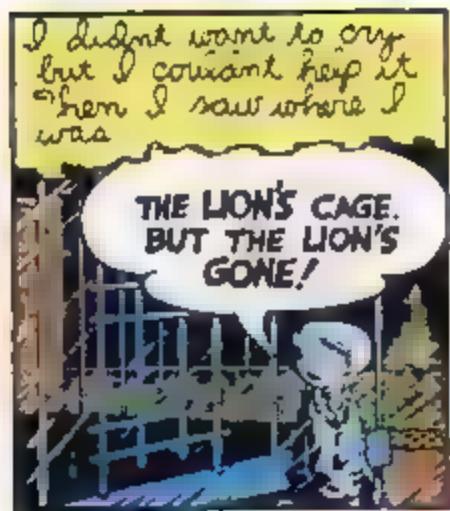
The zoo was a lot of fun. I learned all about the lion.

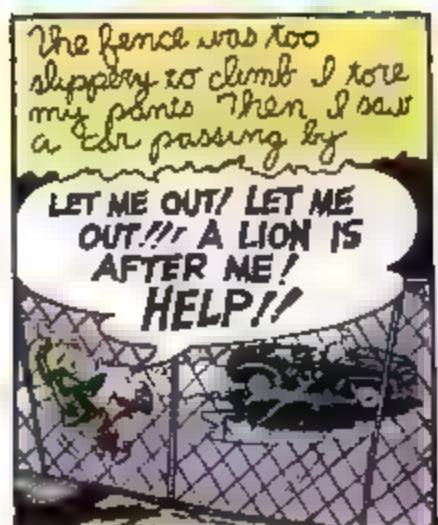
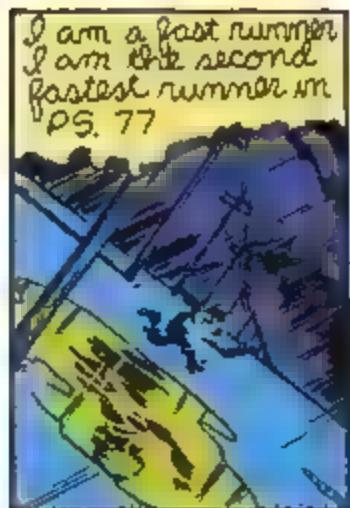
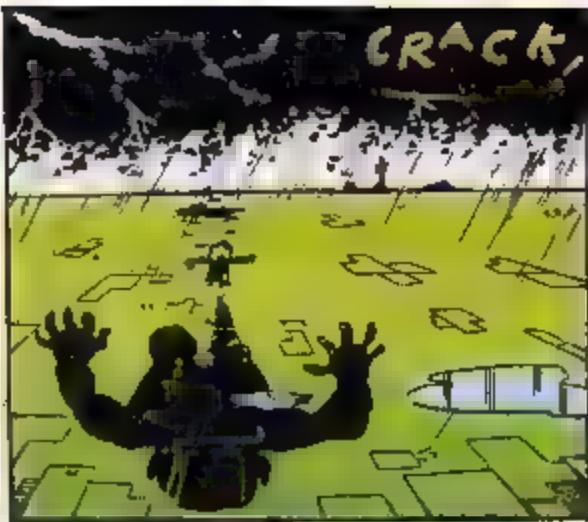
HE'S ONLY IN THE CAGE DURING THE DAY, BUT AT NIGHT WE PUT HIM ON THAT ISLAND SEE, THERE'S A THIRTY-FOOT PIT ALL AROUND IT!

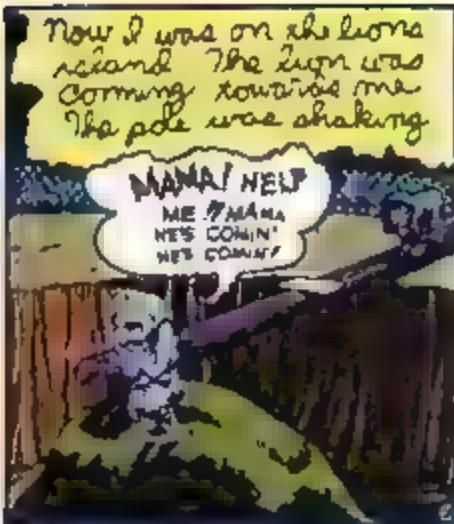
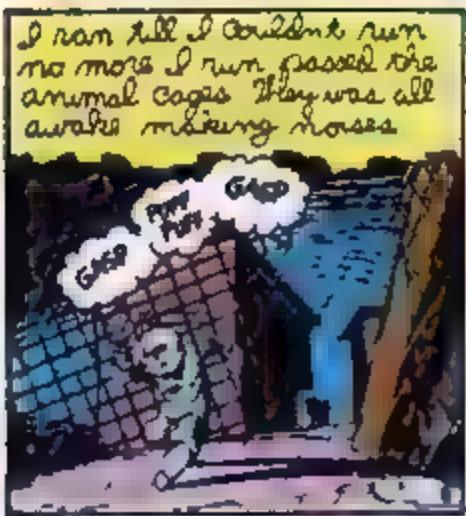
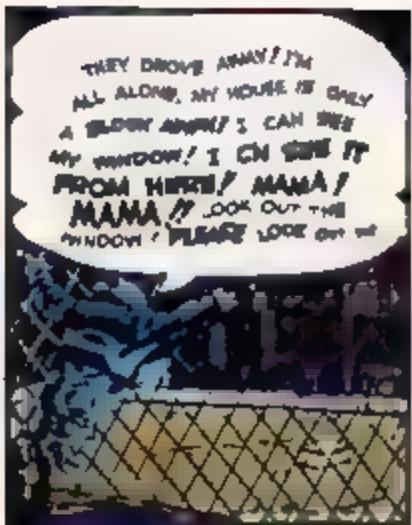
GEE!

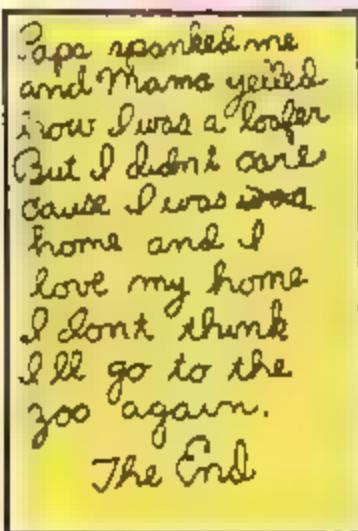
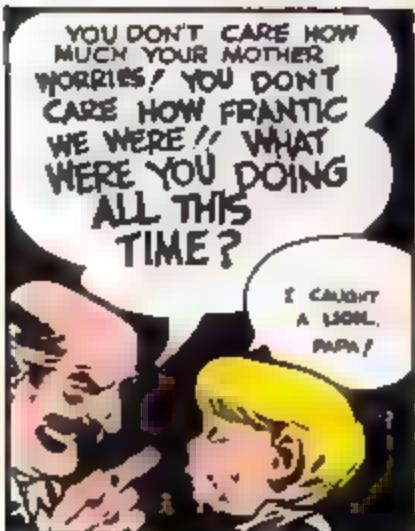
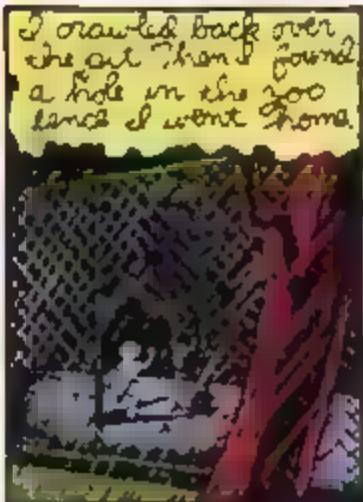
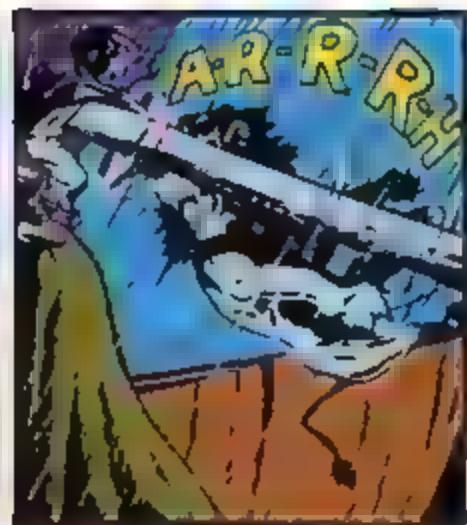














**WANTED:  
DANGEROUS JOB**

April 30, 1950

**ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE**

# THE SPIRIT

BY  
Will  
EISNER

**SIGH NO  
MATTER HOW  
WE FIGURE IT  
THIS CRIMEFIGHTING  
BUSINESS COSTS  
YOU \$20,000  
A YEAR MORE  
THAN YOU  
REALIZE FROM  
YOUR INHERITANCE,  
SPIRIT!**

HELLO.. TIMES ?  
I WANT TO PLACE  
AN AD IN YOUR  
SITUATION WANTED  
COLUMN !  
WANTED.. DANGEROUS  
ASSIGNMENT... WILL  
GO ANYPLACE,  
ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.  
CONTACT  
THE SPIRIT,  
BOX 35 P.

AND SO ON

## THE BIRDS AND BEES OF MEXICO ON TRAPPERS.

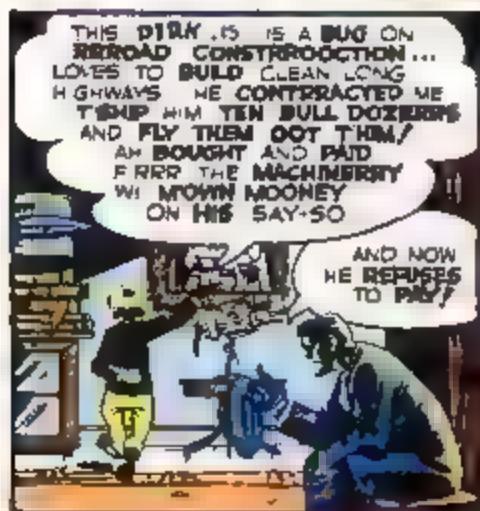
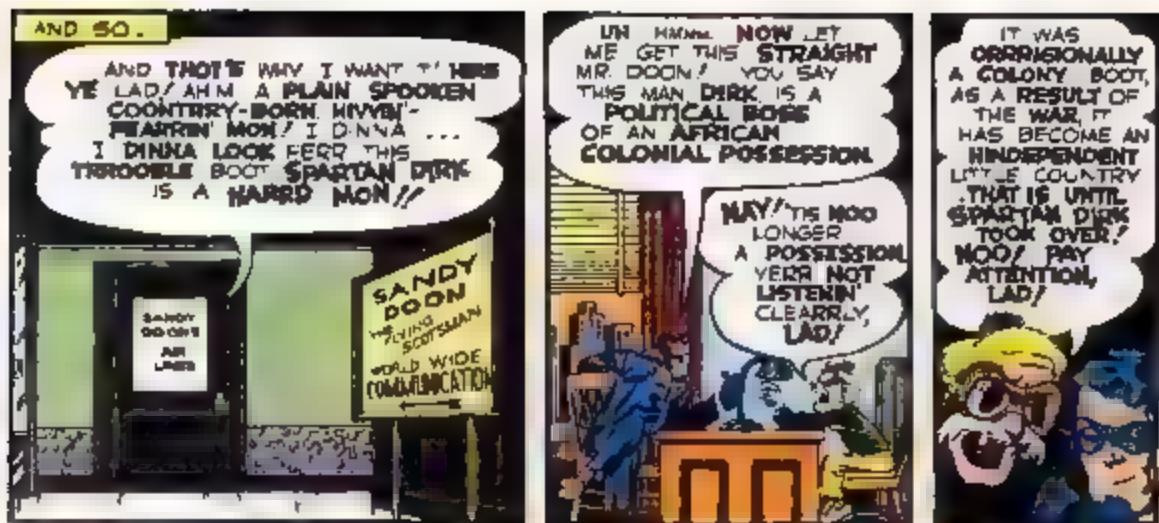
THEY EACH MAY A LASS  
THEY CAN SNOOGLIE AND  
SQUEEZE F F

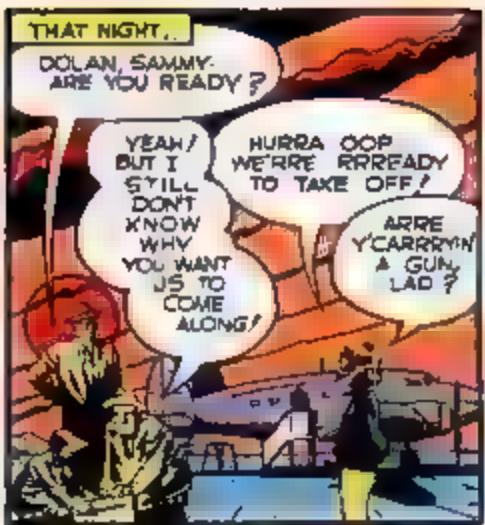
EVERY LITTLE DOG HAS A HOOKEY T' HOD  
BOTH ME & YOU

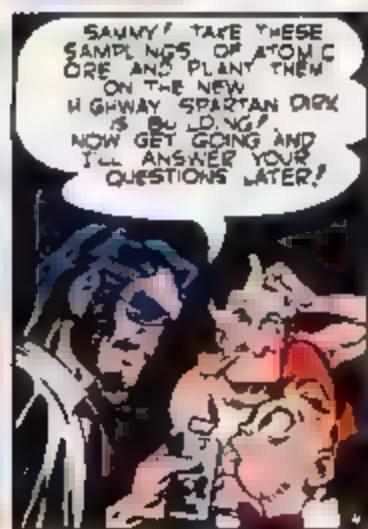
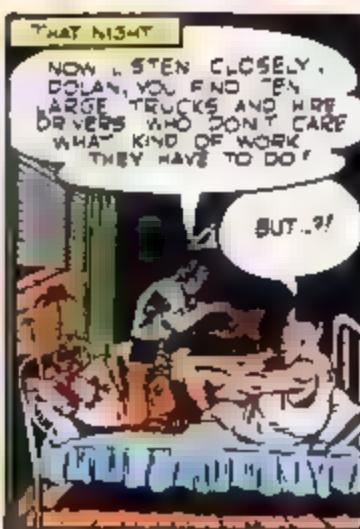
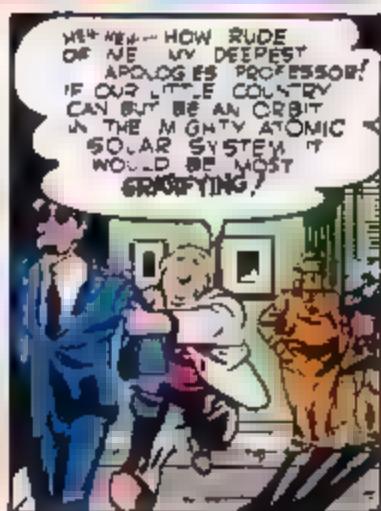
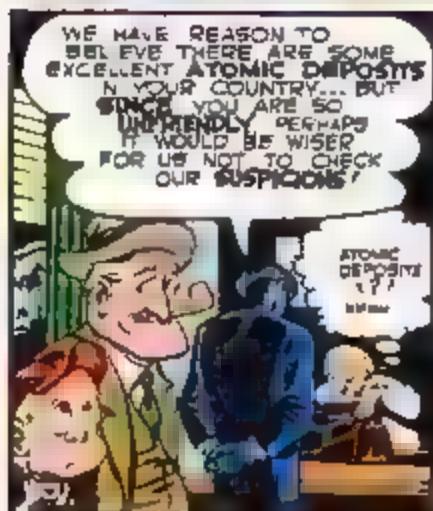
◆ EASY LATER

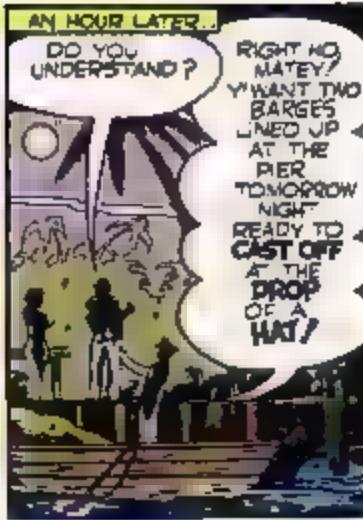
ONE REPLY?  
FROM WHO?

"IT SAYS  
"SANDY DOON"  
THE FLY NG  
SCOTSMAN?"









**PROFESSOR!...  
WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING  
WITH THOSE  
TRUCKS?**

**ER, WE'RE  
TAKING  
DIRT  
SAMPLES  
TO OUR  
LABORATORIES  
!**

**LATER...**

**QUICK, DRIVE  
THOSE DOZERS  
ONTO THE BARGES  
AND CAST OFF!!**

**GET THESE BABIES  
OUTSIDE THE THREE-  
MILE LIMIT BIG  
I'M GOING TO TALK  
TO SPARTAN DICK!**

**LATER... THERE GOES**

**MY HIGHWAY... MY HIGHWAY!  
MY BEAUTIFUL  
HIGHWAY... RUINED!  
BUT IT WAS WORTH  
IT. THERE'S A  
FORTUNE IN  
URANIUM ORE!**

**EHEM!  
MR. DARK,  
THIS IS  
MOST  
EMBARRASSING**

**THE LABORATORY  
REPORTS NO  
ATOMIC DEPOSITS!  
IT SEEMS WE  
WERE MOST ADORNED!**

**MY COLLEAGUES AND  
I WILL BE LEAVING  
IMMEDIATELY! OH YES,  
ER, MISS DOON TOLD  
ME TO GIVE YOU THIS  
RECEIPT... IT SEEMS  
SHE REPOSESSIONSED  
THOSE BULL DOZERS  
DURING ALL THIS  
COMMOTION!**

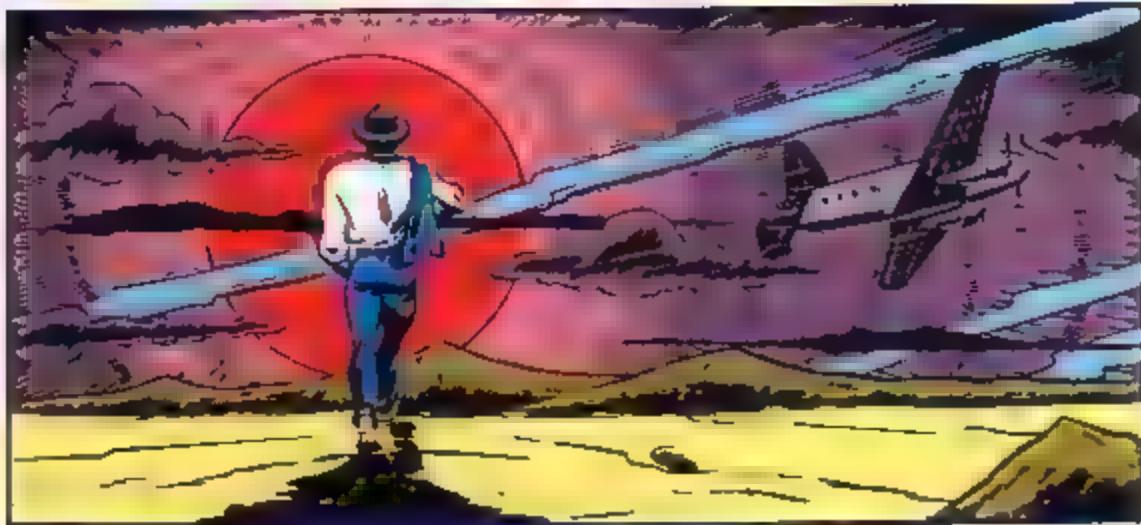
**THIS IS A  
TRICK!! I'LL  
HAVE YOU  
ALL JAILED!**

**YOU CAN DO THAT  
BUT THE ONLY  
DOZERS YOU CAN  
GET ARE MISS  
DOON'S! NO ONE  
ELSE IS GOING  
TO SELL  
TO YOU AFTER THIS!**

**BOY HAVE  
I BEEN TAKEN  
I'LL PAY  
I'LL PAY.**

**A DAY LATER,**

**HERE'S THE  
MONEY, BRIGET.  
AS SOON AS  
YOU'RE ALL OUT  
OF THE COUNTRY,  
I'LL GET THOSE  
BULL DOZERS  
BACK TO  
SPARTAN DICK!  
I DON'T THINK  
WE'LL TRY TO PULL  
A DEAL LIKE THIS  
FOR SOME TIME  
TO COME!**





PITO

May 7, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

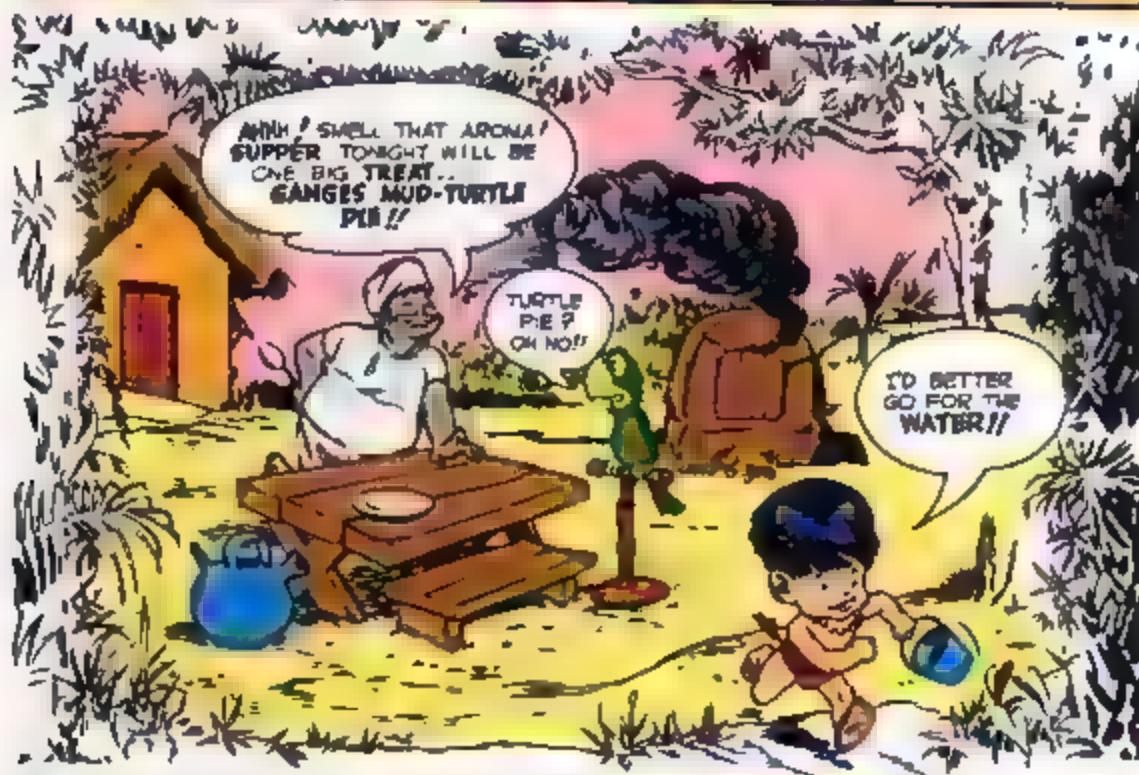
# The SPIRIT

Will E. FISHER

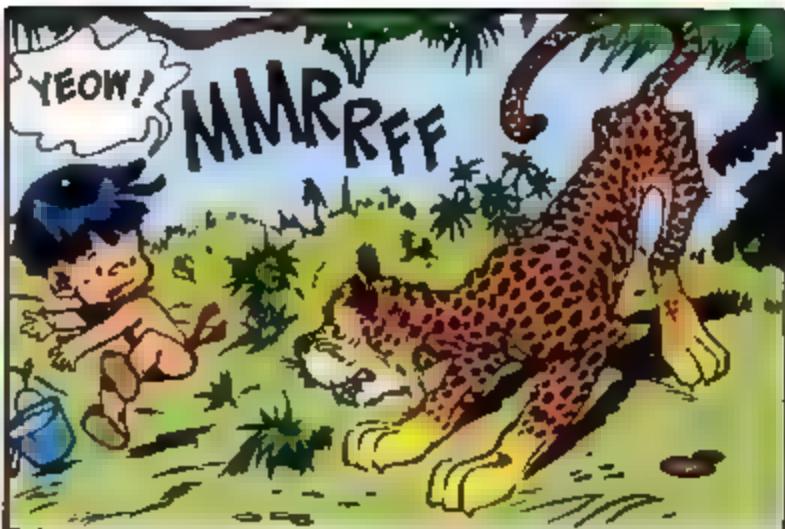
SOMEWHERE ON THE COAST OF INDIA, IN A TINY PORT CITY, THE SPIRIT PAUSES IN HIS TRAVELS.



I WAS LIVING DEEP IN THE JUNGLES THAT LINE THE UPPERS GANGES WITH MY UNCLE, ABD RAN A POOR FARM COME UPON HARD DAYS. WE WERE PENNLESS BUT RICH IN JUNGLE FRIENDS



MEANWHILE ON THE WAY  
TO THE WATER HOLE I  
WAS HURRYING BACK  
WITH A PAIL.



GLUMPH.

HA HA HA ! IT'S ONLY  
OLD TOOTHLESS MOHAMED.  
FOR A MOMENT I  
THOUGHT YOU WERE  
A REAL FEROCIOUS  
LEOPARD. HA HA HA



AND TO THINK MOHAMED  
USED TO BOSS THE WHOLE  
JUNGLE! TSK TSK THAT'S  
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN  
YOU HAVE NO TEETH



AHH THE PIE IS READY  
HAS LIL PANDIT COME  
BACK YET SAHIB  
PARROT?

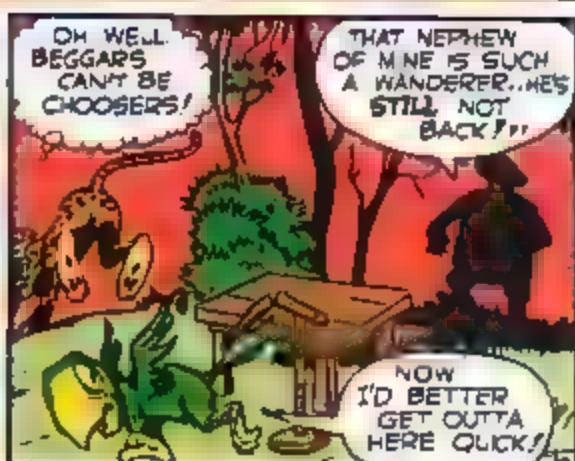
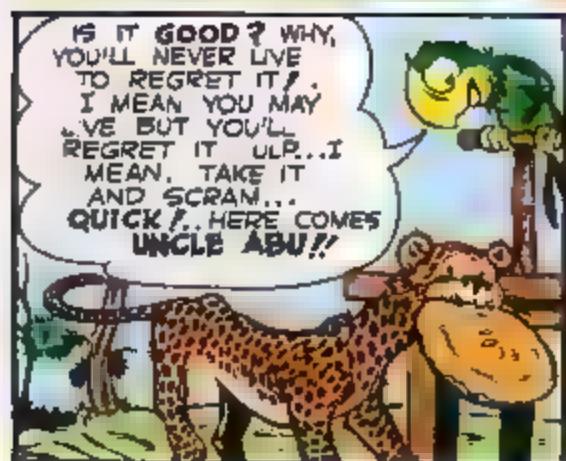
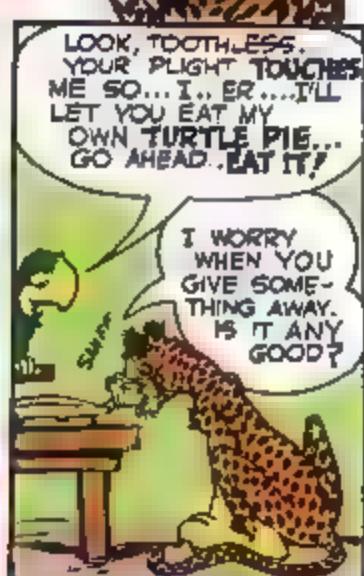
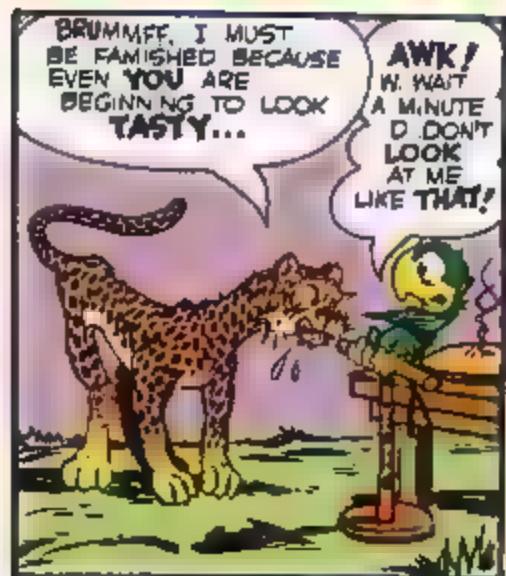
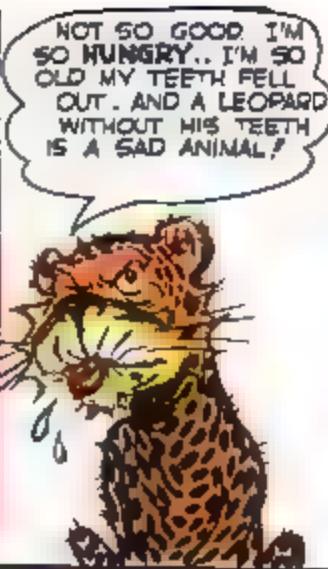
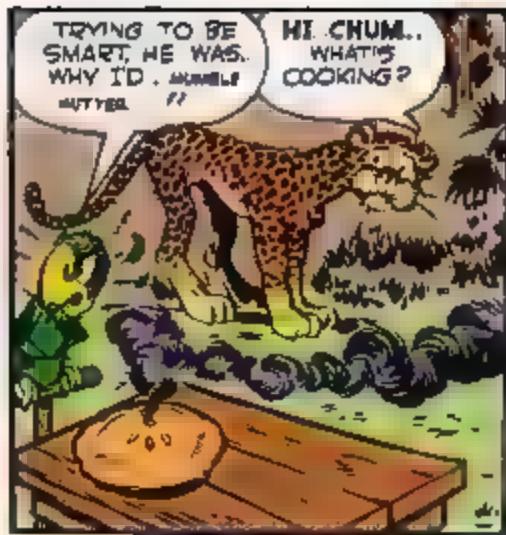
NO!

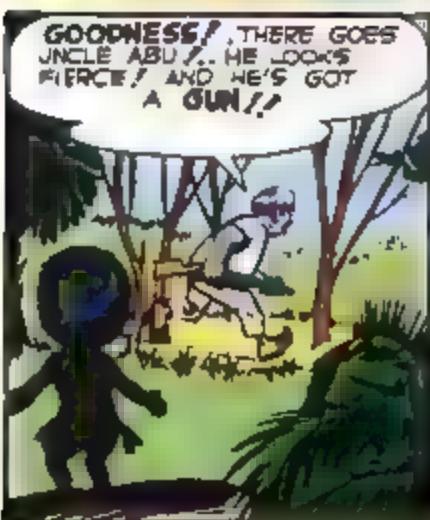
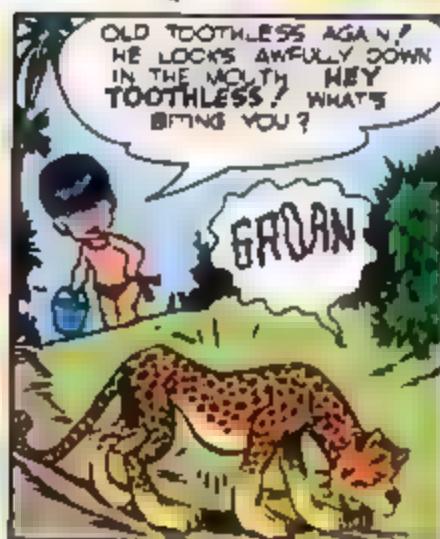
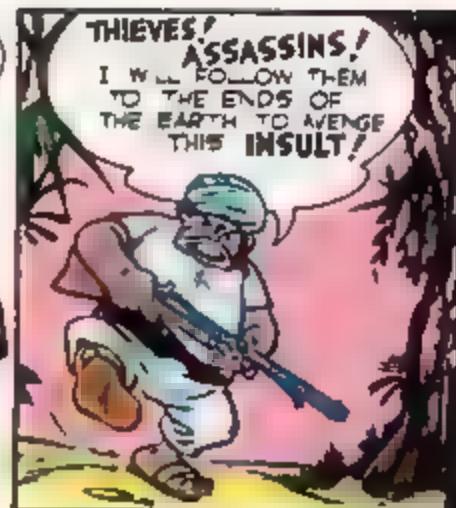


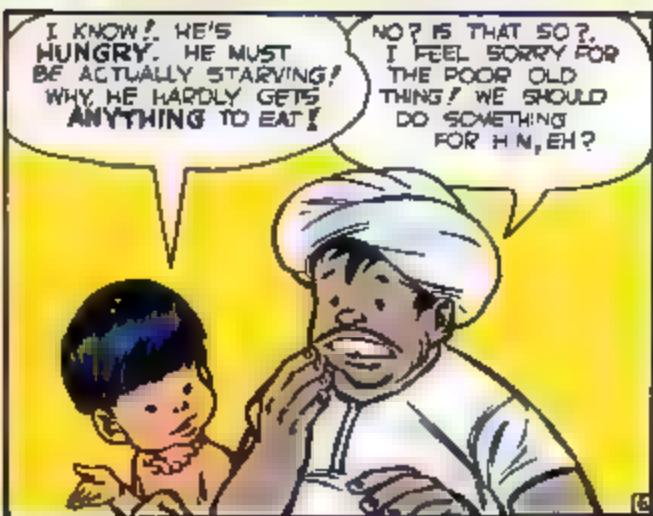
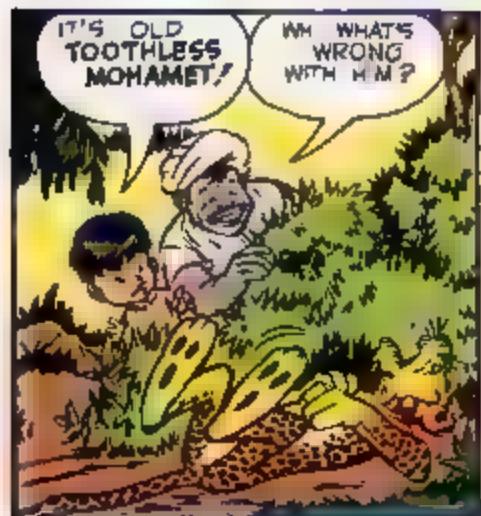
I'LL HAVE TO SEE  
WHAT DELAYS LIL  
PANDIT DON'T  
YOU TOUCH THE  
PIE WHILE I'M  
GONE!

KAF! KAF!  
SPLUTTEREE  
PHOOEE!  
I WOULDN'T  
TOUCH IT WITH  
A TEN FOOT  
POLE!









I COULD INVITE HIM TO  
SUPPER TONIGHT BUT  
SIGN... WE HAVE NOTHING  
TO EAT OURSELVES  
BUT IF I COULD  
GET MY HANDS ON  
THAT CROOK WHO  
STOLE MY PIE  
ID....

POOR STARVING  
OLD THING F WE  
ONLY HAD SOME  
OF THAT PIE!

GRAN



HE WAS NEVER HEARD FROM  
IN ONE ANGLES AGAIN





## THE ROBBERY

May 14, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

On the corner of Main and Market in Beamville stands the Links Safety Deposit Company - established 1943 - bonded bank vaultsmenagerie.



Within the long passageways and barred doors lies \$2,000,000 in stocks, bonds, securities and cash.



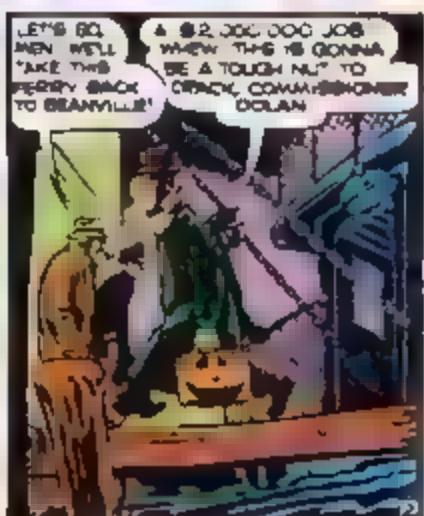
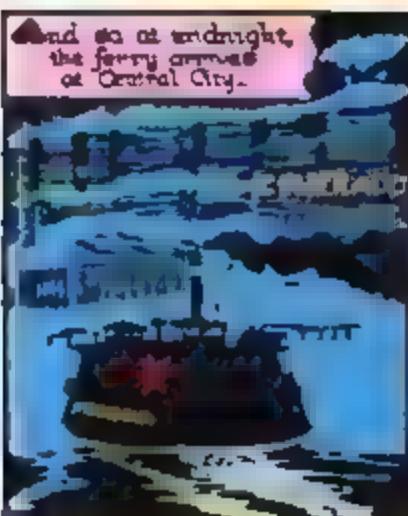
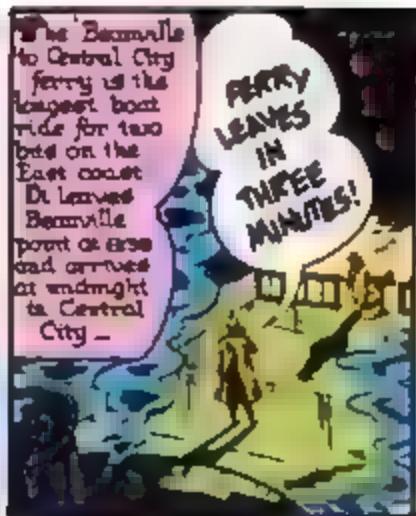
On the evening of March 15, four men entered gate No. 1 of the Links building and systematically passed through the nine barred doors leading to the large vault.

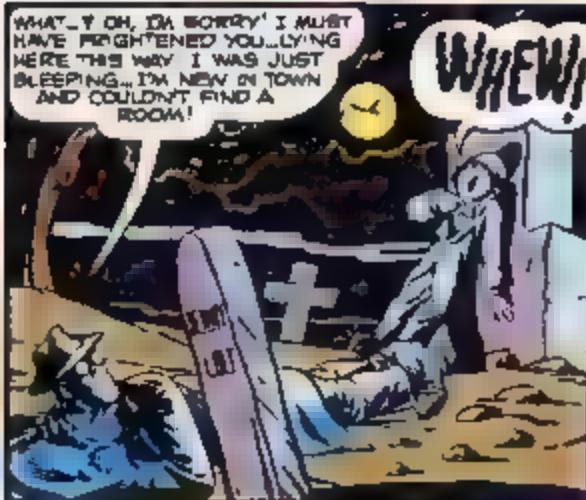


Twenty minutes later they emerged, carrying \$2,000,000 in small bills! No one identified them, for all the men wore rubber masks.



BY  
WILL  
EISNER





The days pass, days of tracing, flagging, printing, grilling -

REPORT FROM THE FLORIDA POLICE: THE SUSPECT PICKED UP YESTERDAY HAS JUST BEEN RELEASED! INSIDE: CLIENT EVIDENCE

DELAWARE REPORTS TWO NEW SUSPECTS!

SIX MORE CONFESSIONS REPORTED TO THE F.B.I. NONE THAT WERE WORTH ANYTHING!

WE NEED A BREAK! ANY BREAK IN THIS BANK CASE IS A TINDER BOX!

NOW, WHERE WOULD I GO IF I'D ROBBED A BANK?

Meanwhile -

LTO A BIG CITY! THAT'S WHERE I'D GO IF I ROBBED A BANK! YESIR, TO A BIG CITY, THEY'LL HAVE A TUGH TIME FINDING THE GUY'S THERE!

UM-

HUH!

THEN, YA KNOW WHAT I'D DO? I'D HIDE THE DOUGH, PUT IT AWAY FOR A YEAR OR TWO AND GET MYSELF A REGULAR JOB, LIVE LIKE AN HONEST MAN - BEYOND REPROACH!

YEAH?

UM-HUM! AND YA KNOW THEM SMALL SINGLEST? WOULDN'T TRY TO PASS 'EM. I'D WAIT AND ALL THE TIME I'D KEEP PINGERIN' THOSE NEW BILLS, DIRTY 'EM UP, WRINKLE 'EM SO THAT NOBODY'D GET SUSPICIOUS... AND THEN WHERE YOU DON'T UP TO BED SO EARLY?

NICE HELL-I... I MEAN, I'L NEED IT. WANT TO GET A CLEAN SHIRT TO GO JIG-SAWING TOMORROW. I WANT TO GET SOME SLEEP!

RELEASED A NEW DEVELOPMENT

IN THE CASE BROKE TONIGHT WHEN ATLANTA POLICE PICKED UP EX-CRIMINAL "HOP TOAD" MORAN WITH A BRIEFCASE FULL OF BILLS. WHETHER THE BILLS ARE THE SAME THAT WERE STOLEN FROM THE JIG-SAW

CLIQUE

CUCK

Next morning—

"MORNIN' I  
THOUGHT YOU  
WERE GOIN'  
JOB HUNTING  
TODAY?"

I—I CHANGED  
MY MIND! WERE  
YOU DOWN AT  
POLICE  
HEADQUARTERS  
BEFORE  
BREAKFAST?

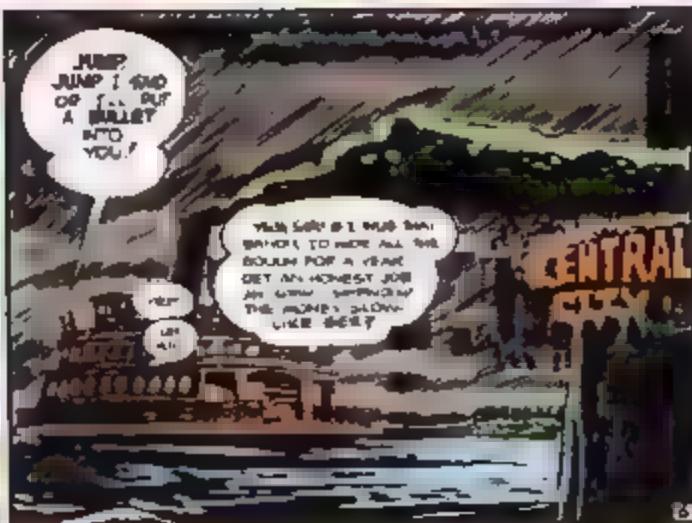
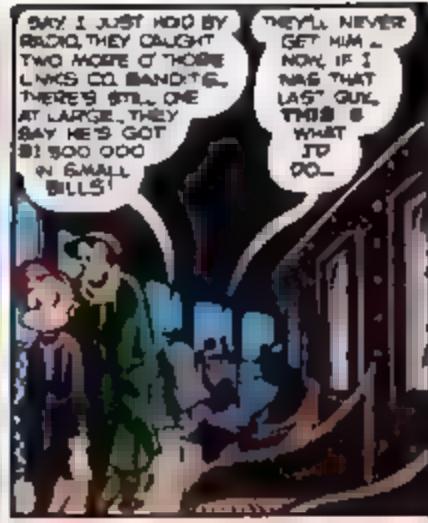
YEAH, I WAS JUST THERE!  
THIS GUY THEY PICKED UP  
IN ATLANTA IS ONE OF  
THE MOB! THEY'RE  
FLYIN' HIM BACK  
HERE FOR  
QUESTIONING!

I GOTTA GET BACK TO  
HEADQUARTERS! POLAN  
HAS A TIP THAT ANOTHER  
ONE OF THEM IS RIGHT  
HERE IN THE CITY! SEE  
YA LATER—I WOULDN'T  
MISS THIS MANHUNT  
FOR THE  
WORLD!



THEY, THEY JUST CAUGHT  
ANOTHER ONE—I CAME BACK  
TO TELL YOU—

YOU DON'T HAFTA, KID!  
COMIN' WITH ME? WE'RE  
TRAVELLIN' NO!







BIG ARKY

May 21, 1950

**ACTION  
ПРИКЛЮЧЕНИЯ  
ADVENTURE**

# **ONE OF THE LINKS ROBBERY BANDITS IS STILL AT LARGE**

Story on Page 2



Have you seen this man ??  
This is an old Roqueia Gauvery  
photo. He is known as Big Arky

## Save Water Asks Service Commission

Citizens of Central City  
are asked to conserve  
of the available  
water that is taken  
upstate res.  
which has  
all of their  
water.

# Last of Robbers Who Stole 2 Million in Cash from Links Co. is still Up the RIVER

## DOLAN IS FETED AT DINNER

#### **Competitor Details**

A black and white comic panel. A large, dark, textured figure stands behind a smaller, lighter-colored figure. The large figure has the word "DAD" written across its chest. The smaller figure has the words "BIG ARK" written across its chest. A speech bubble from the smaller figure contains the text "YEP, DAD'S ME!". A speech bubble from the larger figure contains the text "HIMSELF!".

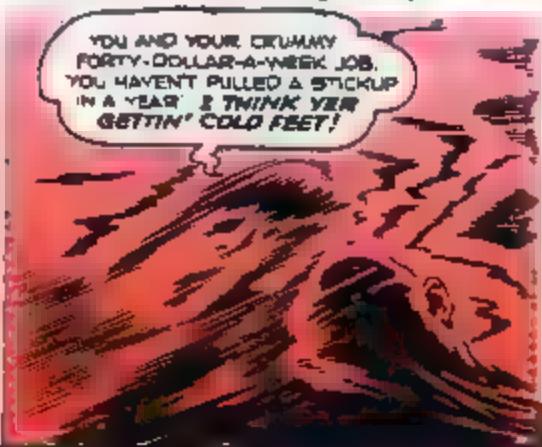
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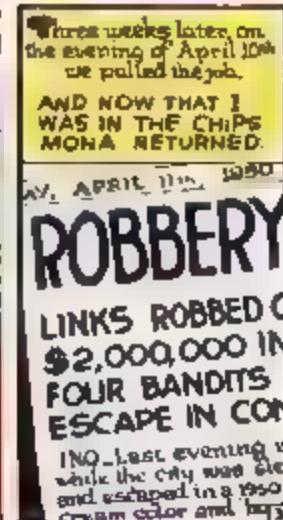
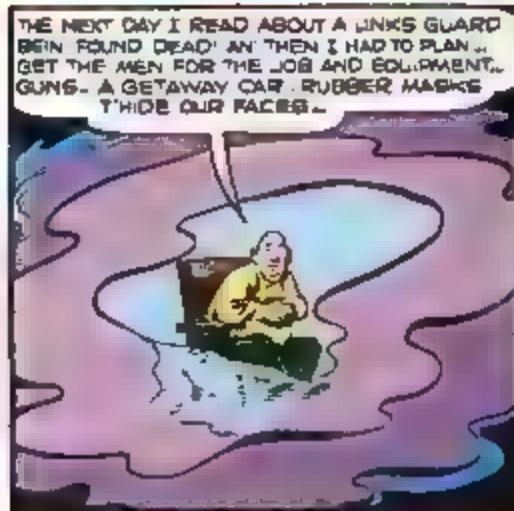
**BUG ARK**  
**FILE**

BY  
WILL  
EISNER



Or wuz Mona who got me to pull the job! Back to Central City she wuz always golden at me!





That night the S.S. Majestic sailed -  
with Mona and me aboard -

HEAR ABOUT THE  
BIG ROBBERY  
BEFORE WE  
SET SAIL?  
BRIGHTFUL,  
WASN'T IT?

IF I WERE THOSE  
CHAPS, I WOULDN'T  
TRY TO LEAVE THE  
COUNTRY. THEY  
ALWAYS CATCH  
THEM THAT WAY!

CAN'T YOU  
EVER GET  
OUT OF THAT  
CRIPPLE  
WHEEL  
CHAIR,  
ARKY?

AS LONG  
AS MY  
CRIPPLE  
ACT  
GOES  
OVER,  
WE'RE  
SAFE,  
MONA!



THIS CHAIR IS MY HOME AS LONG AS THAT  
300,000 BUCKS'S IN IT. I'M GONNA LIVE  
IN IT. SLEEP IN IT. I'VE STRAPPED AND  
TIED MYSELF TO IT. I WORKED TOO HARD  
TO GET THIS DOUGH. LET IT EVER  
GET AWAY!

And so we come to Cairo...

YOU AND THIS CRIPPLE CHAIR:  
WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO  
WHILE YOU SIT DAY AND NIGHT?  
I'M GETTING SICK  
OF THIS!



THE SWANKIEST  
HOTEL IN EGYPT  
WE'RE GOIN', BABY  
WE'RE SET!

ARKY, THE THE SPIRIT  
WAS IN THAT ELEVATOR. HE  
JUSTLY FOLLOWED US  
FROM CENTRAL CITY  
WE GOTTA GET  
DATA HERE!

NOLONG WE START RUNNIN'  
WE'LL NEVER STOP! WE  
GOTTA FIND OUT IF HE  
REALLY KNOWS ANYTHING!  
AND THAT MONA, IS  
YOUR JOB!



I dreamed I had unstrapped myself from the chair...and my legs was wheels and I was rolling back...and... forth...



And slowly the dream went away.



YOU TRIED T'STEAL MY MONEY! YOU DOPE MY COFFEE AND TRIED A DOUBLECROSS!



WHATYA THINK? I'M NOT GONNA WAIT TILL YOU DECIDE TO GET OUT OF THAT CHAIR AND SPEND THE DOUGH! I WANT IT NOW!



I'LL GET OUT OF THE CHAIR... MONA!



I'LL GET OUT



GET AWAY, ARKY!



MONA IS DEAD AND THE MONEY IS STILL HERE IN THIS WHEEL-CHAIR THAT I'M SITTIN' IN

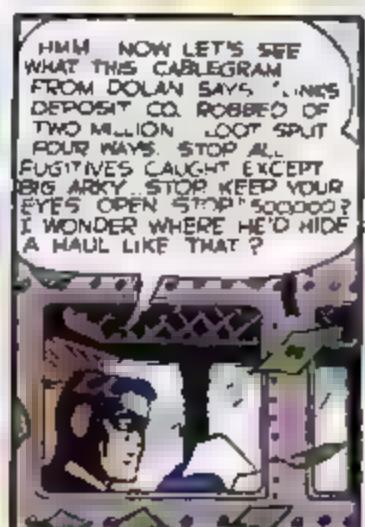
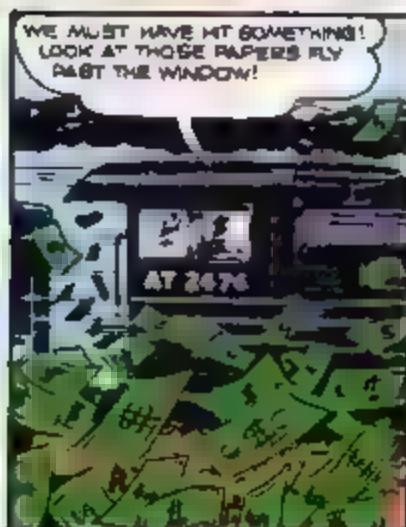


I JUST CALLED THE RAILROAD STATION! THERE'S A TRAIN PULLING OUT FOR THE INLAND IN TWENTY MINUTES! ME AND MY CHAIR...WE'LL BOTH BE ON IT!



I'LL BE GOIN' NOW. THOSE OTHER SUCKERS IN THE ROBBERY...THEY GOT CAUGHT BUT NOT BIG ARKY! NO, SIR, NOT BIG ARKY!

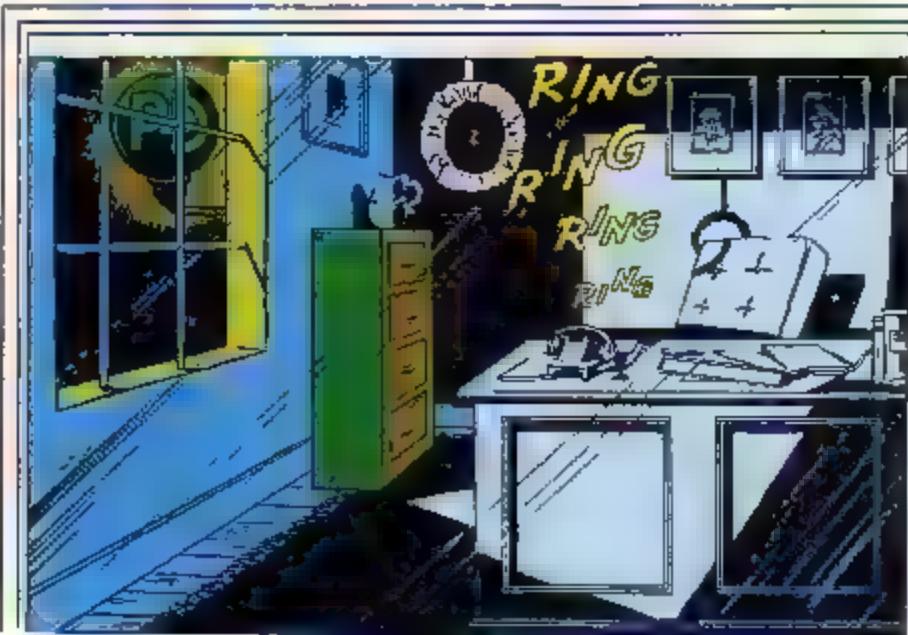






THE GOOD  
OLD DAYS  
May 28, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE





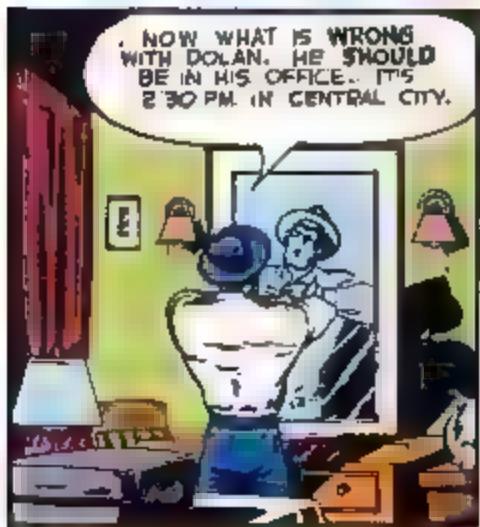
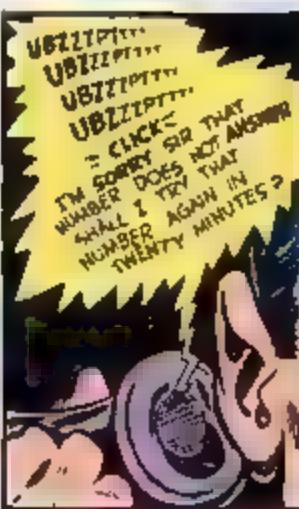
IS HE OUT SICK ???  
NO... IT CAN'T BE  
THAT, FOR HIS NAME IS  
ON THE DUTY ROSTER



WHAT IS THIS ??? POLICE  
HEADQUARTERS ?? WHY DOES  
COMMISSIONER DOLAN NOT  
ANSWER HIS TELEPHONE ....

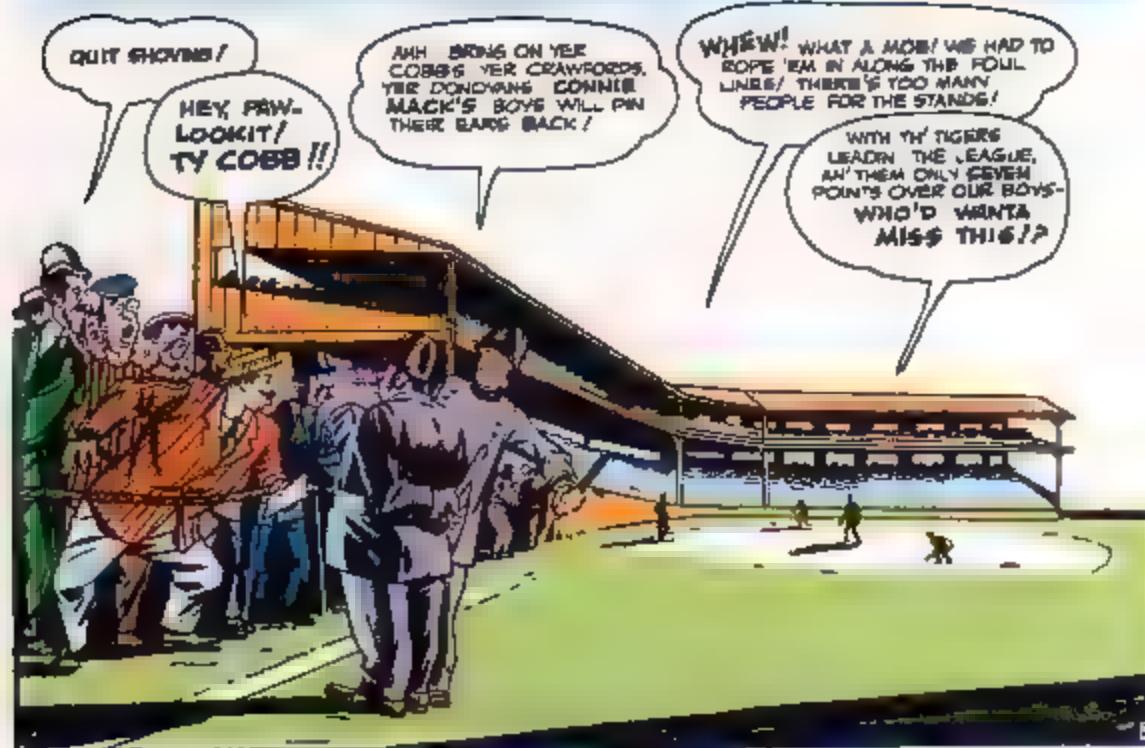


... AND HE'S NOT ON  
A CASE BECAUSE HIS  
NEW CASES FILE LIES  
UNTOUCHED ON HIS DESK..





I RECALL THAT LAST DAY O' SEPTEMBER IN '07 - WELL / THERE TH' SECOND GAME O' THE BIG TIGER-ATHLETIC SERIES / A TWIN BILL WAS SCHEDULED, AN' SHHELP ME, ALL O' PHILLY WAS OUT TO SEE IT.



THE TIGERS WAS UP ALL SEASON  
BATTING THE A'S! COBB'S CLOUTING  
AND DONOVAN'S PITCHING WERE WHAT  
DONE IT, BUT THE MACKMEN KEPT IN  
FIRST PLACE UNTIL THE TIGERS ROARED  
PAST THEM IN THE LAST GAME.

WE LOST THE LAST  
'ME! LET'S SWEEP  
'EM T'DAY,  
CONNIE!

THESE TWO  
GAMES ARE THE  
BIG ONES!



MACK STARTED JIMMY DYGERT BUT WHEN  
THE ATHLETICS BOUNCED THREE RUNS OFF  
WILD BILL DONOVAN IN THE FIRST, MACK PUT  
IN HIS ACE TO PROTECT HIS LEAD...

HEY LOOK!

RUBE WADDELL  
COMIN' IN!

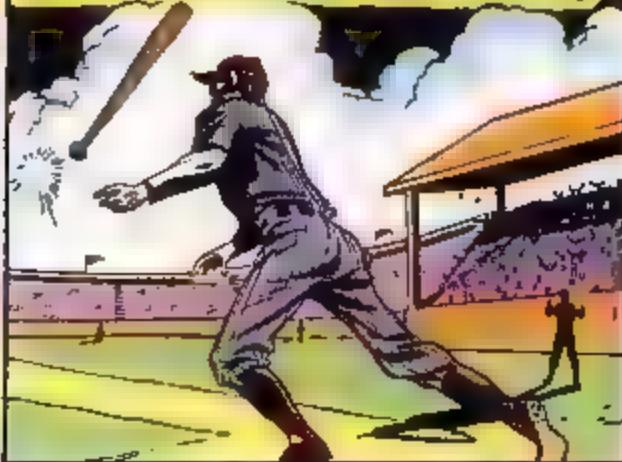


WELL, BOY WADDELL TIED THEM  
DETROIT WILLOWS PURTY, AN' COME  
THE SEVENTH FRAME IT LOOKED LIKE  
THE A'S WERE SET TO MOVE BACK  
INTO FIRST

SEVEN TO ONE IN FAVOR OF  
THE A'S! TWO MORE INNINGS  
TO DO SOMETHING, LADS



AND THEN THE TIGERS CAME ALIVE!!



NICHOLS, ATHLETICS' SHORTSTOP, FUMBLED  
AND CENTER FIELDER OLDRIDGE MUFFED A  
SURE OUT. YOU MIGHT SAY THAT STARTED  
THE RALLY!!

FOUR RUNS!  
YIPEEE!

SAFE!



NINTH INNING!  
THE TIGERS  
ARE THROUGH!

DON'T BET ON  
IT THEY MADE  
FIVE RUNS IN  
TWO INNINGS.  
THREE MORE  
OUTS TO GO!



THE SCORE BY THIS TIME WAS  

ATHLETICS	8
TIGERS	8

AND  
NARY A SOUL  
SUSPECTED  
WHAT WAS  
TO COME!!

WAHOO SAM CRAWFORD HITTIN' 323  
SINGLED. NOTH N' MUCH, BUT THE MAN UP  
NEXT WAS



OL' COBB HIT ONLY FIVE HOMERS THAT  
YEAR SON, BUT THAT ONE WAS ABOUT HIS  
MOST IMPORTANT... END OF THE NINTH  
INNING...DETROIT EIGHT, ATHLETICS EIGHT.



THAT WAS JUST A PREVIEW, SO  
TO SPEAK TENTH INNING GOES  
AND THEN THE ELEVENTH AND  
DETROIT SCORED .



THAT BILL DONOVAN WAS A HOT ONE, HAD A 25-4  
RECORD THAT YEAR, BUT A MACKMAN GOT AROUND  
TO THIRD AND WITH TWO OUT IN THE LAST OF  
THE ELEVENTH...



THE SHADOWS ON THE FIELD WERE GETTING LONGER AND DARKER...DONOVAN'S  
STUFF CAME BACK AND HE WAS GREAT...SO WAS WADDELL...



TWELFTH!!!



THIRTEENTH!!!



FOURTEENTH!!!

THEN THE LAST OF THE FOURTEENTH AND THE BIG MOMENT OF THE GAME.

HARRY DAVIS  
IS UP AGAIN!

C'MON  
HARRY!  
YOU'RE THE  
TEAM CAPTAIN!  
SHOW EM  
THE WAY!!

PLEASE  
HARRY BOY!  
I WANNA  
GO HOME!

**WHACK**

I WAS GOIN' INTO THE ROPE OFF CROWD!  
CRAWFORD DETROIT CENTER FIELDER  
STARTED BACK

HE'S GONNA  
GET IT!

DROP  
IT!  
DROP  
IT!

GROUND  
RULE  
DOUBLE!

IT LOOKED LIKE THE  
BEGINNING OF THE  
END FOR DETROIT

INTERFERENCE  
-THE  
COP GOT  
IN THE  
WAY!!

BUT THEN?

I RULE INTERFERENCE ON THE  
PART OF THE POLICEMAN!  
DAVIS IS OUT!  
LET THE GAME  
CONTINUE!

IT WAS  
GOOD!

STOP  
SHOWIN'  
SEZ  
YOU!

WHAT?  
HE'S CRAZY!  
IT WAS A  
CLEAN  
DOUBLE!

HEY, A  
FIGHT!

ROSSMAN,  
TIGER  
FURST,  
SACKER,  
AND  
MONTE  
CROCE  
OF  
THE  
ATHLETICS  
WENT AT  
IT.  
TEMPERS  
WERE  
HIGH...  
THE  
HOUR  
WAS  
LATE...

CROSS AND ROSSMAN WERE BOOTED AND THE TIGERS HAD NO FIRST BASEMAN...

CRAWFORD... I'M GONNA HAVE TO SWATCH YOU TO FIRST!

RIGHT

BY THIS TIME, CONNIE MACK HAD WADDLED OUT, AND HIS OTHER SOUTHPAW ACE, EDDIE PLANK, IN...

NO / EARTHQUAKE!! IT'S GETTIN' SO DARK I CAN'T SEE THE BALL!!

FIFTEENTH INNING SOMEBODY HAS TO SCORE SOON!

THE SIXTEENTH INNING THE SUN WAS SINKING FAST... THE ATHLETICS FANS BREATHED HARD... DETROIT WAS UP.. THEN PHILADELPHIA.. THEN DETROIT...

SEVENTEENTH INNING!

WELL...

WE MIGHT AS WELL... IT'S LIKE BATTLIN' WITH YOUR EYES CLOSED!

## GAME CALLED ON ACCOUNT OF DARKNESS!

WHAT?

YA!! YA BUM!!

THAT GAME BROKE THE BACK OF THE ATHLETICS, SON! THEY LOST TO CLEVELAND WHILE DETROIT STUPPED ALL OVER WASHINGTON! -MAYBE THEM ERRORS THAT LET IN FOUR RUNS IN THE SEVENTH DONE IT.. OR COULD BE THE DOUBLE THAT WAS CALLED BACK FOR INTERFERENCE.. BUT DETROIT WON THE PENNANT.. AND IT WAS DONE BY A TIE!!





-DUH!! YEP THERE AINT  
MANY OF US ALLIGATORS  
LEFT--DUH!! IN THIS  
PART OF THE WORLD AND  
YET THOSE OF US WHO  
ARE LEFT ARE RUTHLESSLY  
EXPLOITED 'DUN' LEAVE  
ME TELL YOU

TIME WUZ WHEN  
A FELLER COULD  
SNUGGLE IN THE  
MUD AND SLEEP  
ALL DAY  
BUT THAT WAS  
'AFORE  
SHAGG DEBBIN  
AND HIS WIFE  
ICE DEBBIN

HERE YOU ARE  
MR DEBBIN!  
YOU NOW OWN  
THE DEED TO THE  
EAST AFRICA  
ALLIGATOR FARM  
BUT FRANKLY,  
WHY YOU'D WANT  
22 ACRES OF  
JUNGLE SWAMP  
S BEYOND ME

OH  
I'M  
JUST A  
LIL SCOUT  
NOW  
BEAT IT,  
JEEFER  
!!

WELL, ICE IT'S  
ALL OURS IF  
THE GREATEST  
LIL HIDEOUT  
IN THE WORLD!

SIX MONTHS  
IN HERE AND  
THAT CAIRO  
BANK JOB  
SHOULD BE  
FORGOTTEN!

SO DEBBIN  
AND HIS  
WIFE  
LEFT US  
ALONE  
AND  
LIVED A  
-DUH!!-  
QUIET,  
PEACEFUL,  
NORMAL,  
NORMAL,  
SWAMP-  
WIFE  
THAT IS,  
UNTIL  
MR  
DANK  
SHOWED  
JR.

WHO  
ARE  
YOU  
??

LAMPY DANK,  
SR! THE  
NEW ENGLAND  
DANKS, Y'KNOW  
I OWN A PIECE  
OF PROPERTY  
ACROSS THE BASIN  
AND I HEARD THERE  
WERE FELLOW  
AMERICANS  
LIVING HERE.  
SO

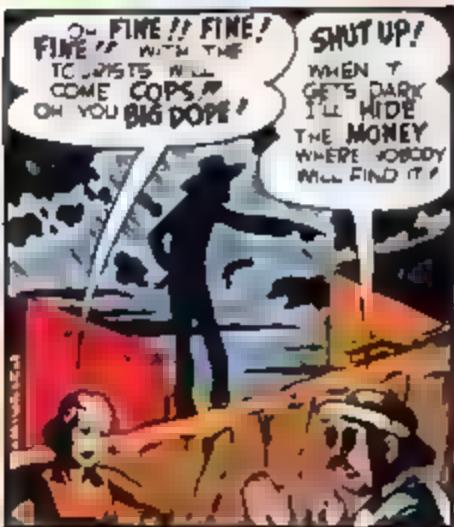
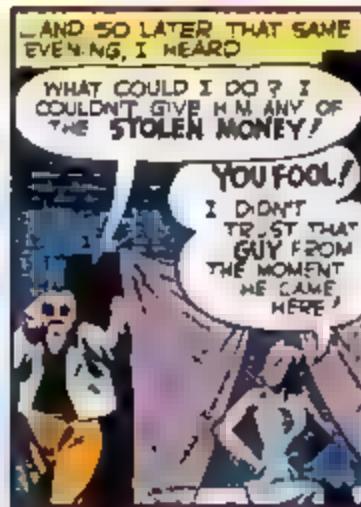
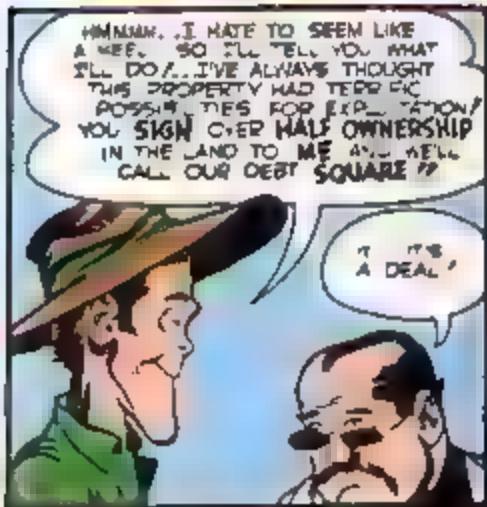
GLAD Y'CAME DANK/  
IT DOES GET  
PRETTY LONELY  
OUT HERE /, ALWAYS  
GLAD T' HAVE  
SOMEONE T' TALK TO!

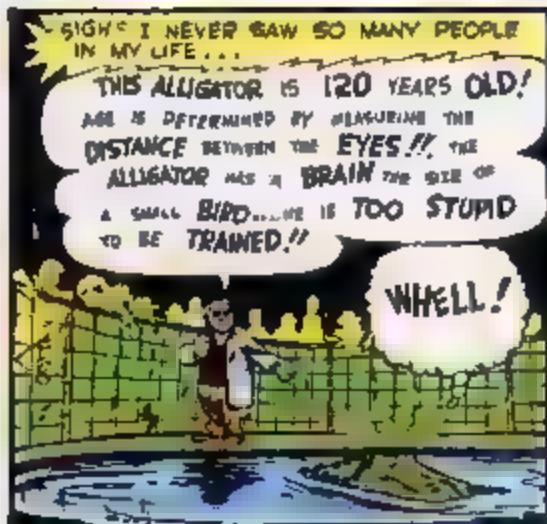
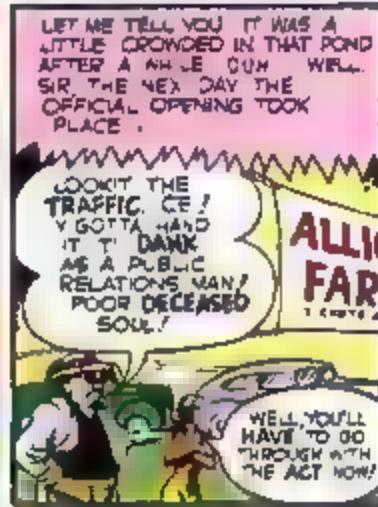
GOOD!  
I C'M SEE,  
DEBBIN,  
THAT THIS  
WILL LEAD  
TO A  
PLEASANT  
ASSOCIATION!

THEN THE  
TOMFOOLERY  
STARTED.  
EV'R  
NIGHT  
DEBBIN  
AND  
DANK  
WOULD  
ST ON  
THE  
PATIO  
AND-  
-PICK-  
-UP-  
-AND-  
-PUT-  
-DOWN-  
SILLY LOOKING  
HUNKS OF  
CARDBOARD.  
- DUH -  
PRETTY SILLY,  
IF Y'ASK  
ME...

BIN?

THAT'S FOUR  
HUNDRED  
BUCKS  
I'M  
IN THE  
HOLE  
TO YOU,  
DANK!





THAT WUZ  
THE FRST  
I SEEN  
O' THE  
NEW MAN  
DUH  
HE DONT  
LOOK  
TOO HONEST  
T ME  
BUT THEY  
H-RED  
H.M. ANYWAY  
HE SAID  
HIS NAME  
WAS  
SMITH...

YOU'LL CLEAN ALL  
THE CAGES FEED  
THE REPT LES AND  
TAKE CARE OF  
THE TREES AND  
PLANTS!

RIGHT!

ALWAYS CARRY A  
STICK WITH YOU  
INTO THE CAGES!  
THE GATORS ARE  
AFRAID OF STICKS!

WHAT  
ABOUT  
THAT  
BABY?

TAKE CARE OF THAT  
ONE MYSELF! HEY MAN HE  
DON'T WANNA OVERBURDEN  
YOU WITH WORK Y KNOW?  
JUST STAY AWAY  
FROM THAT CAGE AND  
EVERYTHING WILL BE  
SWELL! GET ME  
MR. SMITH?

NO  
NOT  
YET  
I  
DON'T!

THAT NIGHT

I DON'T  
TRUST  
THAT  
SMITH  
GUY SNAGG'  
HE'S TOO  
NOSEY!

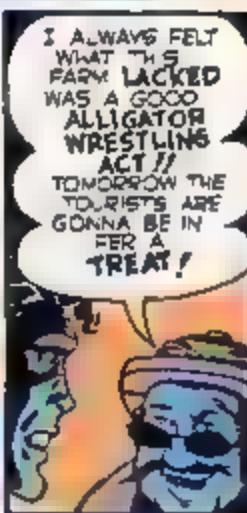
DON'T  
LET IT  
WORRY YA  
HEY,  
ANOTHER  
WEEK O  
T'S  
BLOOM N  
BUSINESS  
AND WE  
CAN CLOSE  
UP HERE AND  
BLOW!

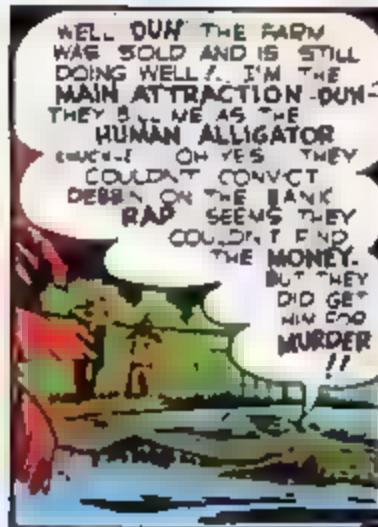
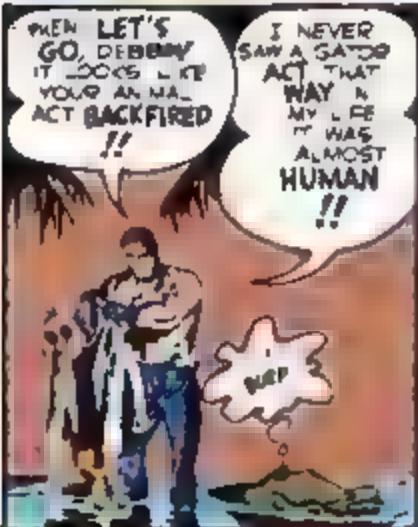
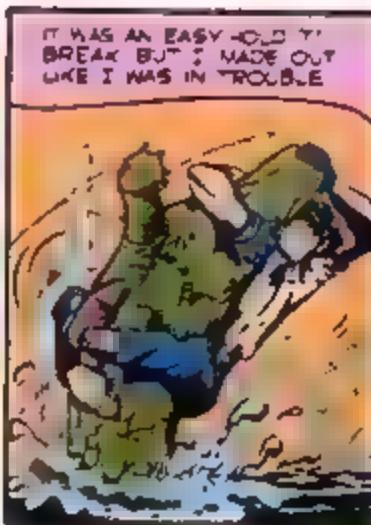
MAYBE WE  
ALL GATORS  
AINT SMART  
DUH  
BUT I KNEW  
THEY WOULDNT  
LEAVE THAT  
PACKAGE INSIDE  
O ME  
AND I HAD  
A HORRIBLE  
IDEA  
O HOW  
THEY WERE  
GOING  
TGET  
OUT...

I WAS MULLING THIS THOUGHT  
OVER UNTIL PRETTY LATE  
EVERYBODY TURNED IN T  
WAS PRETTY QUIET

AND THEN I GOT THE  
FRIGHT OF MY LIFE

HOP OUT OF THAT  
POND, ALLIGATOR OLD  
PAL! I'M ANXIOUS TO  
SEE WHAT MR. DEERIN  
DOESN'T WANT ME  
TO SEE!!







SAMMY  
THE EXPLORER

June 11, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

SPOT  
THE

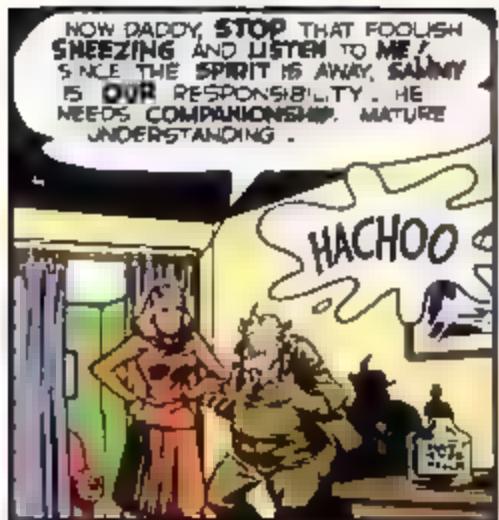


Oh, what has happened to  
the great urge to explore...  
Oh, where is the intrepid youth  
of our grandfathers' era  
who, during the month of  
June, was wont to embark  
on great explorations

BY  
Will  
EISNER

alas, there are but a few  
left...  
and today we give you  
Sammy,  
perhaps the last  
of the great explorers.





O.K. CAPTAIN HORNPIPED,  
NOW THAT WE'RE SHIPSHAPE  
AGAIN, YOU FIND US THE  
SHORT ROUTE TO INDIA!  
I'M GOING TO TAKE  
A NAP!

HEH. HEH. HEH. IT WASN'T TOO LONG AGO  
WHEN I HAD DREAMS OF YOUNG GLORY  
AND GREAT ADVENTURE!

TROUBLE IS WHEN WE GET OLDER WE  
THINK OF THE WHIMS WE HAD AS KIDS  
AS **WHIMS ONLY**! WE FORGET TO  
SEE THEM IN THE SERIOUS LIGHT THAT  
WE SAW THEM IN THOSE DAYS!

ELLEN WAS RIGHT.. SAMMY DOES NEED  
A LITTLE MATURE UNDERSTANDING. LYING  
HERE ON A RAFT ON A WARM SPRING  
DAY WON'T DO EITHER OF US  
ANY HARM!

HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO  
REALLY RELAX IN A LONG  
TIME! JUST TO LIE HERE  
AND VIEW THE WATER AND  
THE SKY AND NOTHING ELSE  
NO BUILDINGS - NO SKYLINE

NO SKYLINE??  
WHERE ARE  
WE???

THAT'S A GOOD  
QUESTION I WAS  
JUST GOING TO  
ASK IT OF YOU!

GLOVERS CREEK JOINS CENTRAL CITY BAY WHICH EMPTIES OUT INTO THE OCEAN! WE MUST HAVE FLOATED ALL THE WAY OUT!

YEP!

WE CAN'T BE TOO FAR FROM SHORE! SAMMY HAND ME YOUR TELESCOPE SO I CAN FIND THE SKYLINE!

BUT...

DON'T "BUT" ME!.. THIS ISN'T A GAME ANY LONGER! TIS TIME THE MORE EXPERIENCED ONE OF US TOOK COMMAND. GIVE ME THAT TELESCOPE!!

OK BUT I AIN'T SURE HOW MUCH IT'S GONNA ADD TO YOUR EXPERIENCE!

YOU'RE A GREAT HELP!  
WELL WELL JUST HAVE TO SIGHT OURSELVES BY THE SUN AND FIGURE IN WHICH DIRECTION WE HAVE TO GO!

WHAT'S THE MATTER ??

NO SUN! THE SKY IS OVERCAST! LOOKS LIKE RAIN??

FIVE MINUTES GO BY . TEN  
MINUTES . AND THEN



WHAT DOES  
ONE DO WHEN  
ONE IS IN A  
SITUATION  
LIKE THIS?



YOU'RE THE ADVENTURER  
YOU HACHOO TELL  
ME!

WELL THE FIRST STEP  
I'D TAKE WOULD BE  
TO APPRAISE THE  
SITUATION CALMLY .



VIEW THE VARIOUS  
STRATEGEMS THAT  
MAY BE APPLIED.  
IN A **COLD**  
PRECISE MANNER  
AND THEN ...



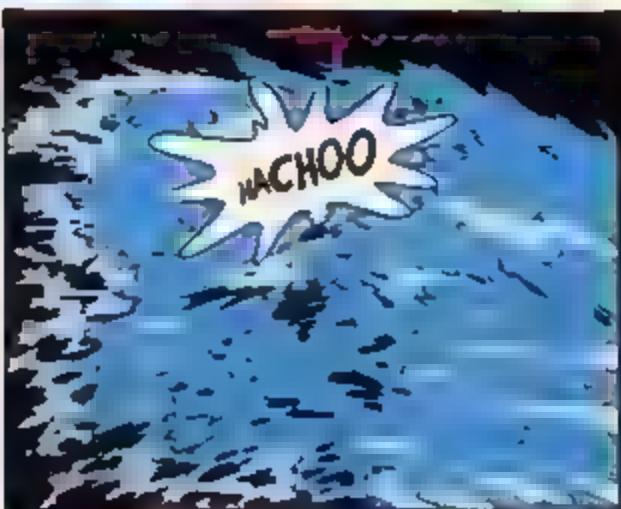
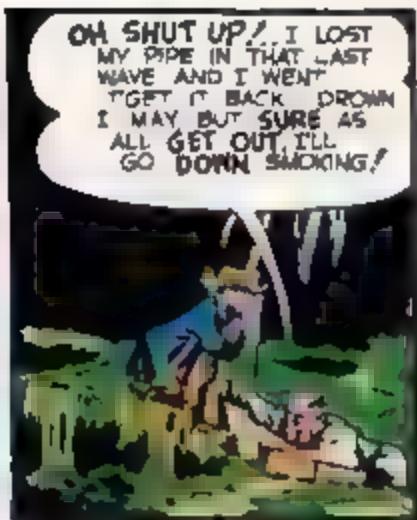
YELL

**HELP**  
**HELP** P.P.



DOLAN !  
WHERE  
ARE YA ?





LAND!

LAND...WAKE UP,  
DOLAN! WE'RE  
ON LAND!

LAND LAND  
LAND LAND!

DO YOU  
HEAR  
MAN?

WHERE?

LOOK...A BEACH, TREES.  
WE'RE ON A DESERT  
LAND, ALONE...THE  
TWO OF US...JUST  
LIKE LIKE  
ROBINSON CRUSOE!

OH HUH!

WE'LL BE HERE MONTHS,  
PERHAPS YEARS BEFORE  
A SHIP VENTURES CROSS  
OUR LANES!

OH HUH!

ALONE..  
LOST..  
DESOLATED  
MAROONED

SAMMY WOULD YOU LIKE  
YOUR HOT DOGS  
WITH MUSTARD OR  
SAUERKRAUT?

HOT  
DOGS  
10!

Yes, gone are the great explorers, no more are the high seas scoured by men of iron...

Alas...where, now can the Magellans, the Hudsons, go to satisfy the great urges that swept men like Marco Polo to immortal fame...

For, now, we whose deeper talents lean toward great adventure are trapped...hemmed in by a civilization that has doomed such enterprise forever.





## WILLUM AND THE BARON

June 18, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



MORNING .  
IN THE  
SLUM GULLY  
SECTION  
OF  
CENTRAL  
CITY..

SHINE MISTER ?

NAH  
BEAT IT!

I'LL BUY A SHOESHINE FROM  
YOU, KID BUT GO EASY.  
I HAVE TENDER CORNS.

YES, SIR ..  
I WON'T  
HURTCHA  
A BIT!

GOLLY! YOU SURF GOT BIG FEET.  
BET YOU'RE A DETECTIVE  
AND YOU'RE HOT ON  
SOMEBODY'S TRAIL,  
RIGHT NOW!

GOOD GUESSING! I'M  
LOOKING FOR WILLUM  
THE SHOE SHINE BOY?  
KNOW HIM?

WHY, YES.  
THAT'S ME !

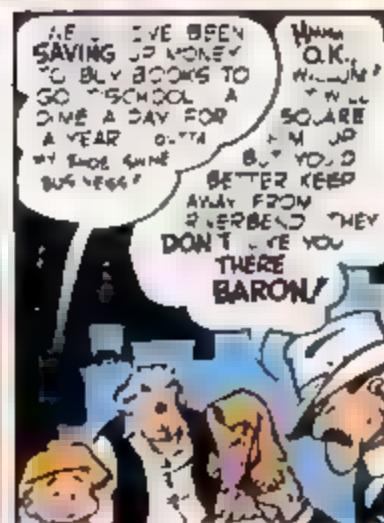
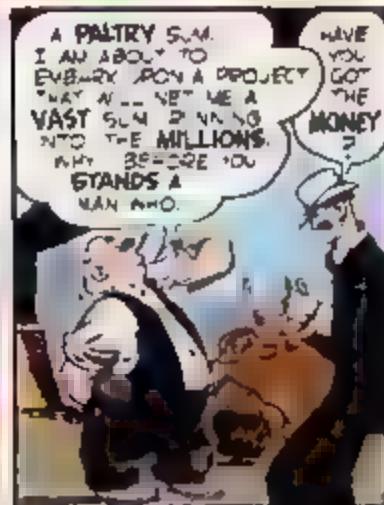
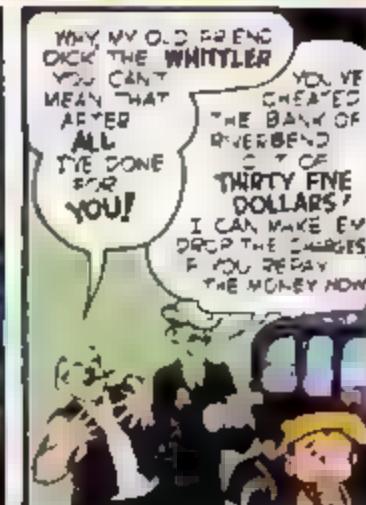
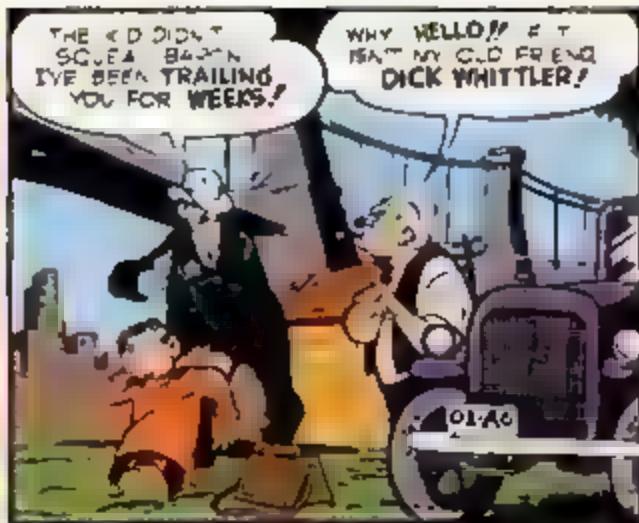
LATER.

POP! POP!  
WHERE ARE  
YA?

THAT YOU, WILLUM?  
HERE I AM FIXIN'  
THIS GY!/s CAR!

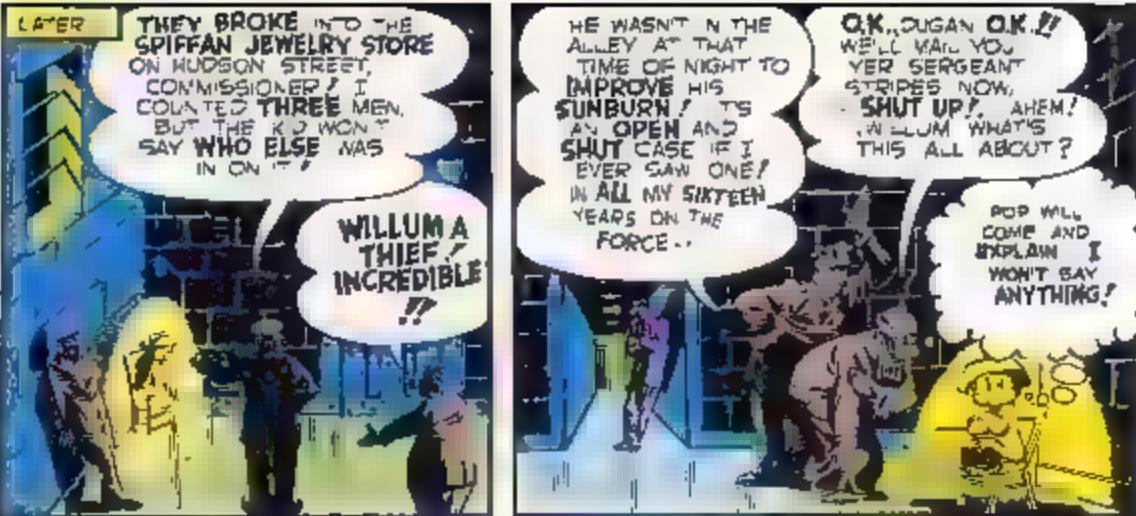
POP I BRUNG A  
MAN TO SEE YA.  
HE'S FROM RIVERBEND  
AND -

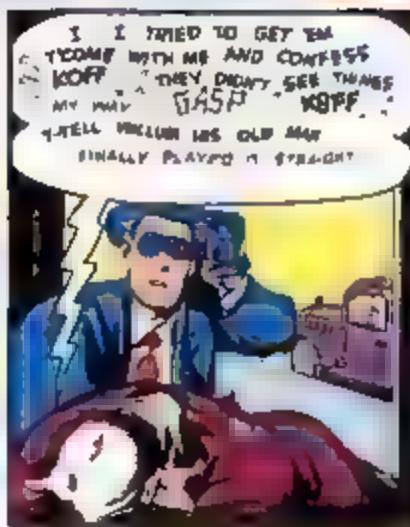
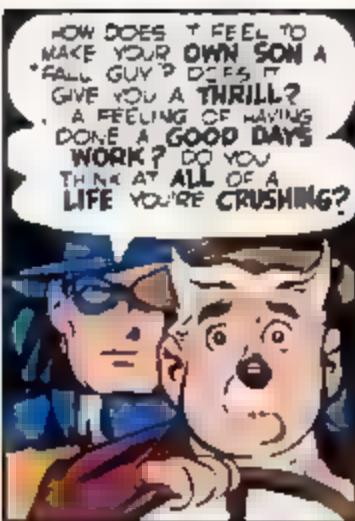
WHAT!













CENSUS '50

June 26, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

During the month of April, in 1950, the Government of the United States embarked upon the task of "taking the census of the population in this country." By now, all the field reports are in, and the great task of compilation begun, or in some cases already completed.....

We submit, (somewhat late we admit), the report of field man #407....this may well be one of the most important documents of our time.....

# Spirit

BY  
WILF  
EISNER



THAT SPIRIT IS THE REPORT! IT ARRIVED AN HOUR AGO!

HMM... FROM CENSUS TAKER NUMBER 407.. CENSUS DISTRICT NUMBER FIVE, CENTRAL CITY.

June 27,  
The following are the details of my experience in the attempt to complete the census in District #5. I do not expect that everything I relate will be accepted, for I am unable to provide the facts. I now relate all the incidents as they happened to me. If I am not heard from in 24 hours you may send all my effects to my sister in Chicago.

It began as I was making my last interview in this area.



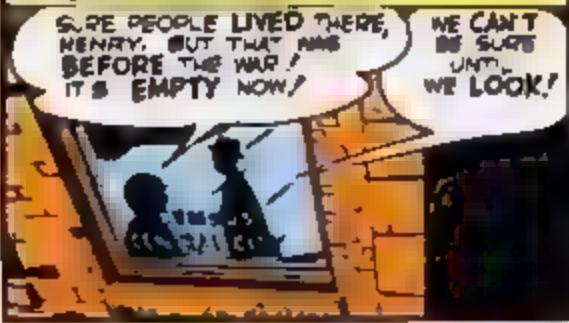
His name was Langtry...and as I completed his listing, he said something that froze my attention.



YEAH! THE BAYSHORE SWAMP! I DUNNO ABOUT HOW BUT YEARS AGO PEOPLE LIVED THERE! YOU WOULDN'T WANT THEM NOT TO HAVE A CENSUS, WOULD YA? HA HA! SO Y BETTER CHECK!



My census district extends from Hillcrest Ave., running south to the bay. The swamp was in there, of course, but it never occurred to me that any people lived out there.



And so the next day, I found myself in a Coast Guard plane flying low over the swamp.



IF I FLY ANY LOWER, THIS PLANE WILL HAVE TO BE A SUBMARINE!

LOOK... OVER THERE... PEOPLE!



DO YOU  
SEE THEM?  
FLY LOWER  
LOWER!

My eyes are not too good. I could only make out their outlines..... On the way home, my pilot was very silent.

WELL, GEORGE  
HOW DID IT  
GO?

THERE'S  
A SMALL  
COMMUNITY  
IN THAT  
SWAMP!  
HOMES, SCHOOLS  
EVERYTHING!

INCREDIBLE!  
DID YOU SEE  
IT TOO  
CAPTAIN WILKINS?

I DIDN'T  
SEE A  
THING!

The next day, after much coaxing, I got a Coast Guard launch to take me deep into the swamp.....

LOOK AROUND,  
MISTER. DO YA  
SEE ANY PEOPLE?

NOTHING...  
IT IT'S ...  
EMPTY ??

WHAT DID YOU  
EXPECT?  
A COMMUNITY!..  
SCHOOLS  
HOMES  
HAW!!

LAUGH IF YOU LIKE,  
BUT I SAW THEM'  
.. AND SO DID  
THAT PILOT! HE  
LIED, AND I'M GOING  
TO FIND OUT  
WHY!

HA HA HA!  
HA HA HA!

That night...

LIE... WHY  
WOULD I  
DO IT?

CAPTAIN WILKINS,  
YOU SAW THOSE  
PEOPLE AS WELL AS  
I NOW COME  
CLEAN. WHAT'S  
GOING ON THERE...  
I'VE GOT TO  
KNOW!



LISTEN... NOW LISTEN THIS!  
ON FOGGY DAYS YOU SOMETIMES  
SEE THINGS THAT DON'T  
EXIST! SHAPES CREATED  
BY THE ATMOSPHERE! YOUR  
EYES WERE PLAYING TRICKS  
ON YOU! AND TO PROVE  
IT, I'LL FLY YOU OVER  
THAT SWAMP AGAIN  
TOMORROW!!



AS I left his apartment, I could not help but have the feeling that Capt. Wilkins was going on that flight with me...just to prove something to himself. That night I did not sleep.



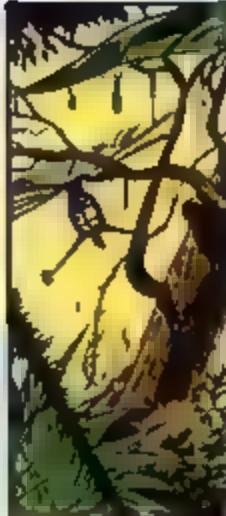
Next day...

THIS WAS THE  
SPOT.  
WASN'T IT?

YES! LOOK  
BELOW! CAN'T  
YOU SEE  
THE PEOPLE?  
YOU MUST  
SEE THEM!

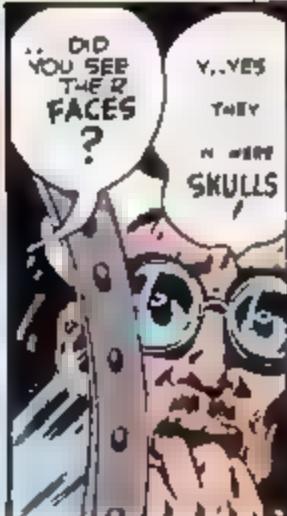


THOSE SHAPES  
DOWN THERE!  
LOOK HARD  
NOW... I'M  
GOING TO  
FLY LOW!  
LOOK HARD!



DID  
YOU SEE  
THEIR  
FACES  
?

Y...YES  
THEM  
SKULLS



Later....

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!  
I DON'T BELIEVE  
IN GHOSTS!

NEITHER DO I,  
PAL! THAT'S  
WHY I'M  
DENYING I  
SAW ANYTHING!  
I LIKE MY JOB!  
I'M NOT GOING TO  
LOSE IT. PILOTS  
IN MY POSITION CAN'T  
AFFORD TO BE  
INVOLVED WITH  
MIRAGES!

BUT YOU KNOW  
THESE .ER...  
WHATEVER THEY  
ARE EXIST!!  
YOU KNOW THEY  
EXIST!

I DON'T  
KNOW.  
A -THING!

Never before in all my life have I been in the grip of such an eerie curiosity. I HAD to know the truth.

LISTEN, GEORGE, WE GET NUTTY STORIES LIKE THIS EVERY TIME WE HAVE A CENSUS. GO HOME... GET SOME SLEEP...

I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO BELIEVE ME!

ALL I WANT TO SEE IS THE 1940 CENSUS RECORD ON THAT SWAMP AREA!

YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I THAT THOSE FILES ARE MARKED CONFIDENTIAL

I'VE GOT TO SEE IT...

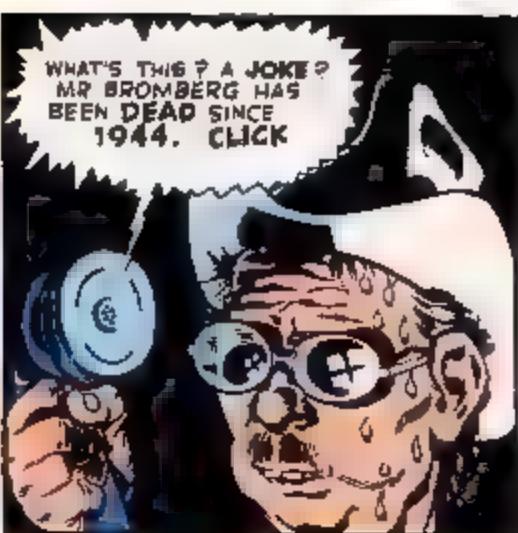
GEORGE...  
GET AWAY  
FROM THERE!



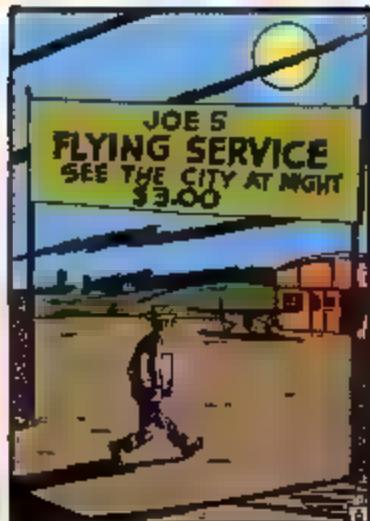
That was the first act of violence I had ever shown in my life. But now it was as though I were crazy, and I had to know...I had to know.

I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK TO MR. BROMBERG PLEASE!

WHAT'S THIS? A JOKE?  
MR. BROMBERG HAS BEEN DEAD SINCE 1944. CLICK



I checked all the names listed on the 1940 census for that area. I called every name in the book.... THEY WERE ALL DEAD.....dead, dead.



It is now 50 minutes before midnight.  
By the time this letter reaches you I  
will be aloft. Flying over that swamp.  
Perhaps for the last time...  
Because I am wearing a parachute and  
when we reach that spot, I shall leap  
out.  
I am convinced that I can reach, by air,  
what I could not reach by land or water.  
I am convinced that there really is a  
community of people who are, perhaps,  
not quite dead.  
I do not expect,  
as soon as I have completed the task  
of taking the census in this community  
in some manner.  
Naturally, I will expect the normal fee  
of .07 per person interviewed. This,  
too, you may forward (with my effects)  
to my sister. Her Chicago address is  
listed on my insurance policy.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Digit Jr.

Henry Digit  
Ct. #407, Dist. 5





## THE MOMENT OF GLORY

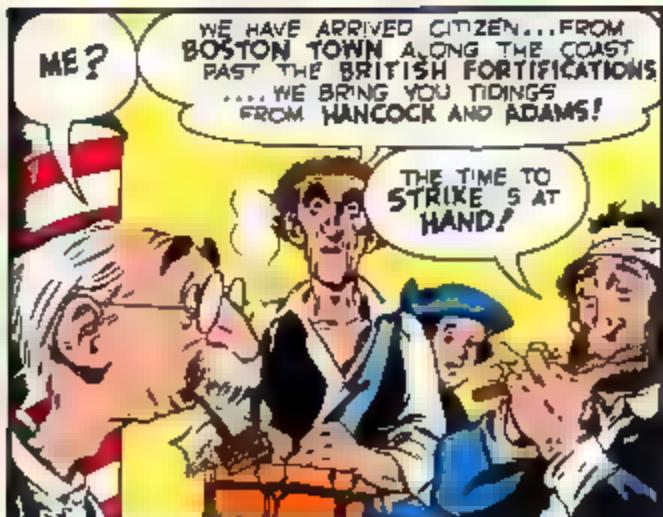
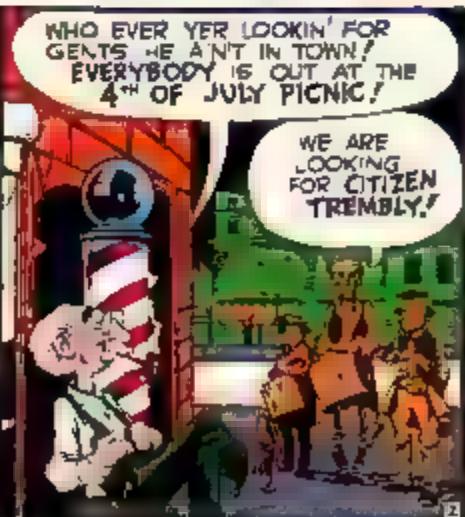
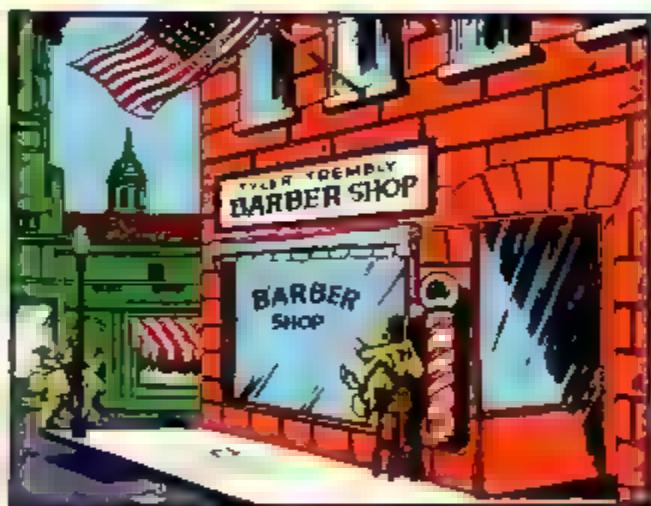
July 2, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

To every man during the span of his life there comes a moment of great glory. One magnificent moment of joy or accomplishment that makes the grimmer years he's lived quite worthwhile..... take for example, Tyler Trembly....

**S**ince the day he was born everyone in town laughed at Tyler Trembly. Perhaps it was because he had such a vivid imagination. Indeed, he was the victim of every practical joker, simply because he believed no evil of anyone. Regardless of all that, Tyler Trembly was an important man...he was the direct descendant of the founders of Trembly. In such an isolated community, this was no small matter...and so Tyler managed a quiet but harassed existence. Then one day, on the Fourth of July, there came to Tyler his one moment of glory...  
by Will Eisner.





S. STRIKE?  
WHO?

IT IS UNSAFE TO  
SAY MORE. REMEMBER  
THIS CITIZEN,  
WATCH THE CHURCH  
TOWER FOR THE  
SIGNAL A LIGHTED  
LANTERN IN THE  
CHURCH STEEPLE AND  
REMEMBER, THE FATE  
OF THE COLONIES  
IS IN YOUR HANDS!

THE TOWN'S PEOPLE  
WERE RIGHT FOR ALLUS  
LAFFIN AT ME. WHY,  
I'M LOONY! I'M  
SEEIN THINGS!  
I MUST BE BATTY!

YEET I DID SEE  
EM I TALKED TO  
EM NO SIR I AIN'T  
CRAZY BY GOLLY,  
T'S THE SPIRIT  
O' SEVENTY SIX  
COME TO WARN US!

TO ARMS...TO ARMS  
CITIZENS OF TREMBLY  
AAAH PROOEY

NO POINT IN TELLING  
THE PEOPLE THEY'LL  
ONLY LAUGH AT ME..  
NO SIR...I GO  
RIGHT TO THE TOP.  
TO SQUIRE  
SLEEZY  
WE'LL BELIEVE  
ME!

WAIT TILL THE SUCKERS  
FIND OUT THAT WHILE  
THEY'RE EATING THEMSELVES  
BICK WE'VE RUN OFF  
WITH THE TOWNS  
TREASURY HA HA HA

IT'S  
SQUIRE  
SLEEZY  
AND  
THE COUNTY  
TREASURER

STOP THAT INFERNAL LAUGHING! I WISH THIS WHOLE MESS WAS OVER! WHEN IS THE GETAWAY PLANE COMING?

SOMETIMES TONIGHT AS SOON AS IT LANDS, THE PILOT WILL SIGNAL US BY LIGHTING A LANTERN IN THE CHURCH TOWER

HOW ROMANTIC! WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIS CALLING US BY PHONE?

AT THIS STAGE IN THE GAME WE'RE NOT GOING TO CHANCE AN OVERHEARD PHONE CALL. YOU KNOW HOW THAT MABEL IS ON THE SWITCHBOARD!

NOW I HAVE TO GET OUT TO THE PNC GROUNDS AND MAKE MY ANNUAL SPEECH HAHA HAHAHA

TYLER TREMBLY WHAT IS THIS ?

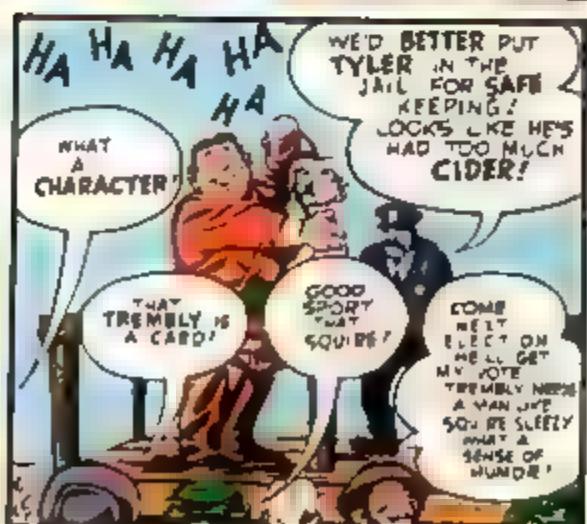
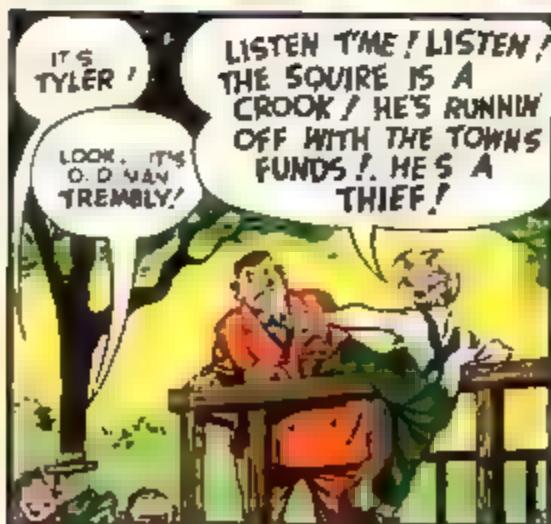
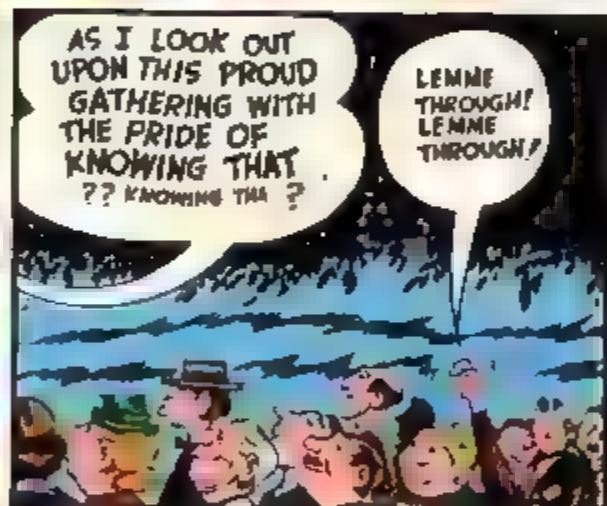
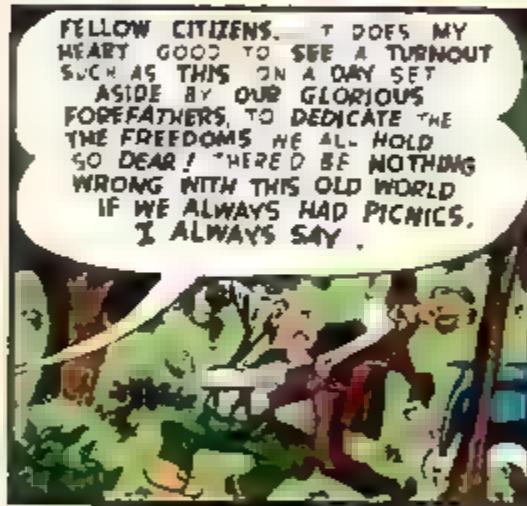
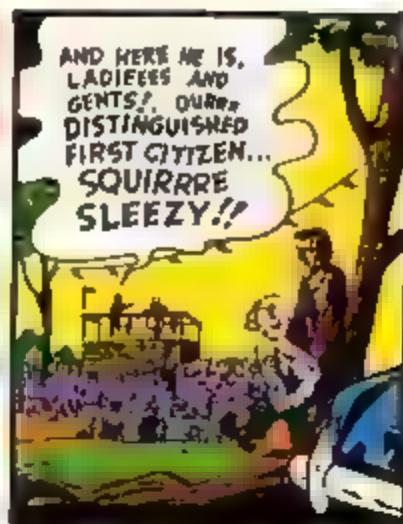
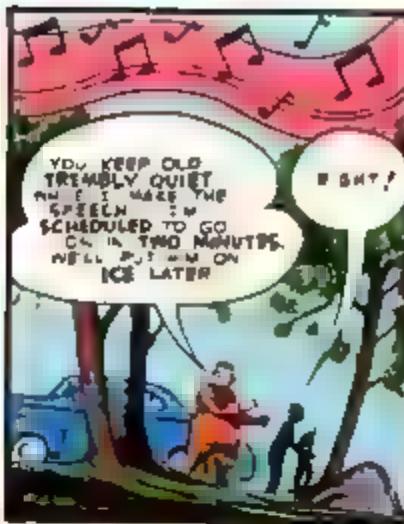
YOU THIEVES I HEARD THE WHOLE STORY, NOW YER GONNA GT YER JUST DESSERTS!

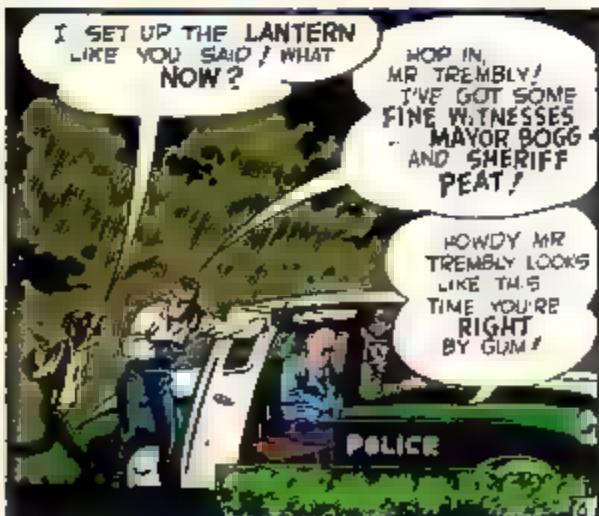
BOOM

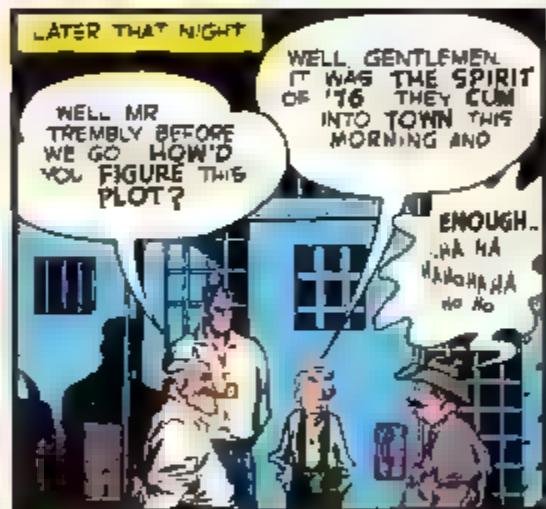
IT WASN'T NO HALLUCINATION, IT WAS THE VISION OF MY ANCESTORS TELLIN ME MY DAY HAS COME! YOU CAN'T WIN OVER FATE! MY DAY OF GLORY IS AT HAND!

HAHA HA  
HA HA HA  
NUTS I TELL YA!  
HE'S NUTS!

STOP THAT INFERNAL LAUGHING.  
I TELL YA I DON'T LIKE THIS!









## THE SHIP VS. DARLING O'SHEA

July 9, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE





WE SHOVED OFF THAT AFTERNOON WITH A LOAD OF 300 PASSENGERS ABOARD...

AHNN-  
U.S.A.  
HERE  
WE COME!

DID YOU HEAR  
THE LATEST  
GOSSIP??  
DARLING  
O'SHEA  
IS ABOARD  
THIS VERY  
SHIP?

THE MISTRESS??  
GOSH THEY SAY  
SHE'S THE  
RICHEST WOMAN  
IN THE WHOLE  
WORLD!

NOBODY  
HAS  
EVER  
SEEN  
HER!

JOVE:  
THEY  
SAY  
SHE'S  
UNBELIEVABLY  
BEAUTIFUL!

PARDON ME ARE  
YOU THE SPIRIT?  
YOU'RE WANTED  
IN CABIN 13!  
T'S URGENT!

BY JOVE!  
A MASKED  
MAN?

TEE  
HEE  
MUST  
BE  
ONE OF  
THE  
ENTERTAINERS!

YES

I'M THE  
SPIRIT!

COME IN -  
COME IN  
QUICKLY!

SLAM

I'M SORRY TO BE SO  
MELODRAMATIC BUT I  
AM THE GOVERNESS  
OF DARLING O'SHEA!  
NOW, THIS IS MOST SECRET!  
MISS O'SHEA HAS ORDERED  
ME TO HIRE YOU AS HER  
BODYGUARD DURING THIS  
TRIP... THERE ARE MANY  
WHO WOULD LIKE TO  
GET THEIR HANDS ON  
MY MISTRESS!

THE RICHEST  
WOMAN IN  
THE WORLD  
EH? THE DOLL  
WHO'S NEVER  
BEEN SEEN?  
I GUESS I  
SHOULD BE  
HONORED!  
I'LL BE THE  
FIRST OUTSIDER  
TO SEE  
HER!

MISS  
O'SHEA  
WILL  
BE IN  
THAT  
ROOM  
DURING  
THE  
ENTIRE  
TRIP!  
YOU  
WILL  
BE IN  
THIS ONE!  
YOU WILL  
NEVER SEE  
HER!



WELL SIR DURING THE NEXT WEEK QUITE A BIT HAPPENED....



YOU WANT HIM,  
BUT YOU'LL NEVER  
HAVE HIM! HE'S  
MINE! MINE  
DO YOU HEAR?

THE BIG SHIP HEARD SHE  
TREMbled AND JUmed  
AND THEY SEE SWAYED  
SWAYED HARD

THE IMPERIAL'S KILLER  
INSTINCT BREATHED  
THROUGH EVERY SEAM



FOR A MOMENT THEY  
BOTH SWAYED NEARLY  
FALL IN INTO THE  
BILGE. THEN THE  
IMPERIAL LEVELED  
OFF. THE SHIP DON'T  
WANT TO KILL HIM

PHEN! I WAS LOOKING  
ALL OVER FOR YOU!  
WHAT WERE YOU  
DOING DOWN  
HERE?

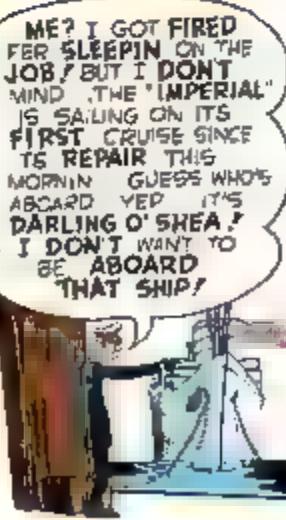
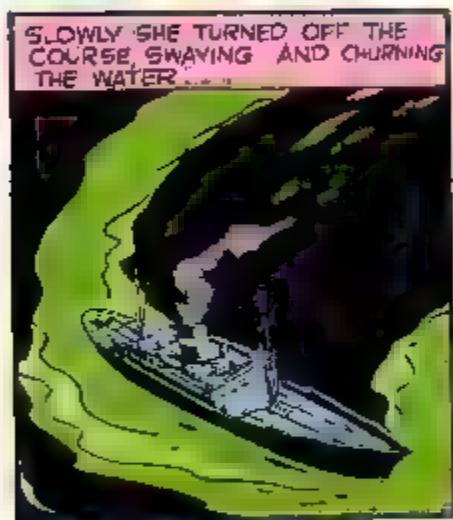


THE IMPERIAL SEEMED  
TO LOSE HER FIGHT.  
AFTER THAT SHE  
WANTED TO REACH  
THE U.S.A. AND UN-  
LOAD. SHE SPED  
TOWARDS PORT...

WE DOCK TOMORROW  
AT DAWN! THEN  
I GO HOME TO  
CENTRAL CITY!  
AND GET RID  
OF THIS  
BRAT!

I  
CAN'T  
LOSE  
HIM  
LIKE  
THIS!  
I  
WON'T!







## THE DESERT

July 16, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

On the morning of July 15, a special police plane took off from an airport on the west coast. It carried a load of passengers under extradition and its sealed orders gave CENTRAL CITY as its destination.

At 1:05 A.M. July 16, at an altitude of 9,000 feet, the engines burst into flame and the plane crashed somewhere in the desert region around the Great Salt Lake.



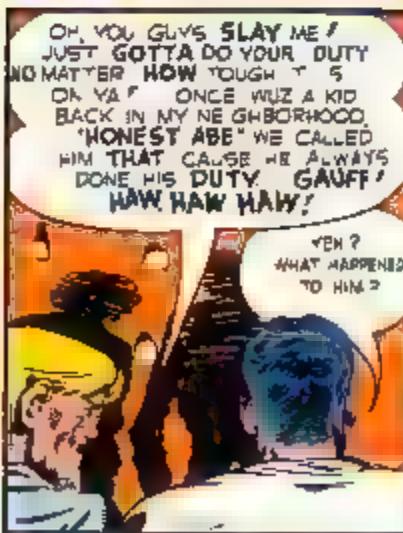
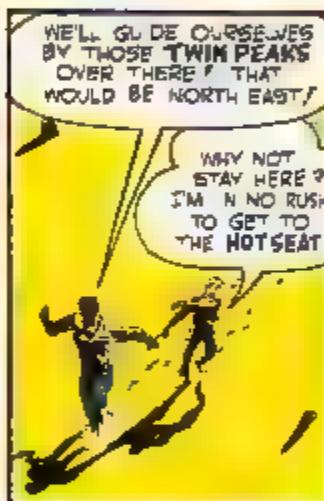
There were only two survivors

THE CRIME

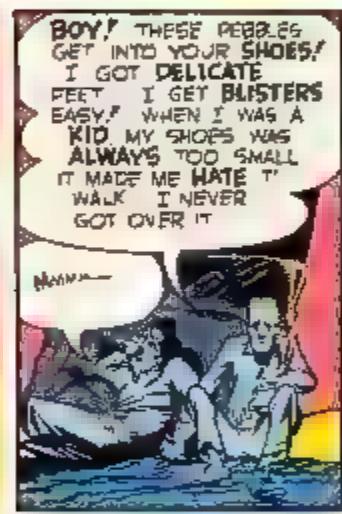
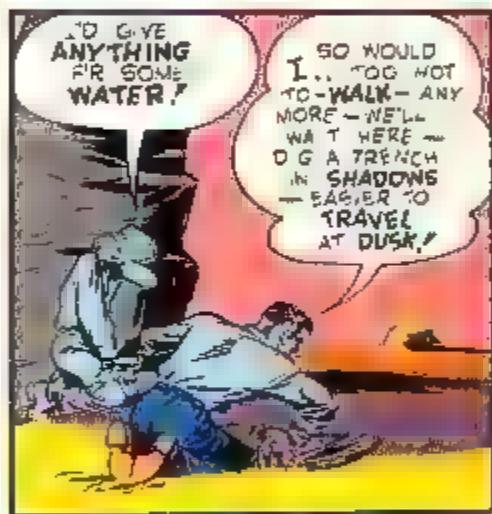
By Will Eisner



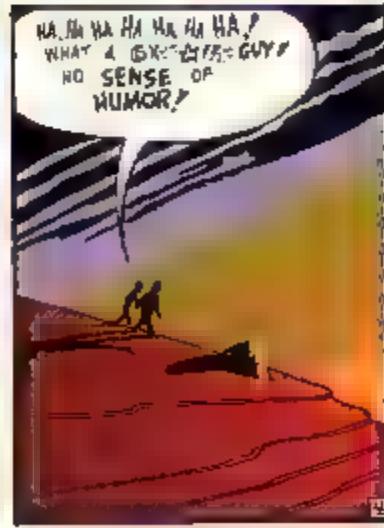
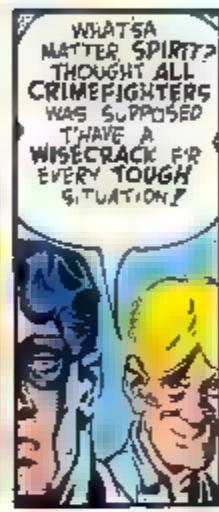
# Morning...the first day



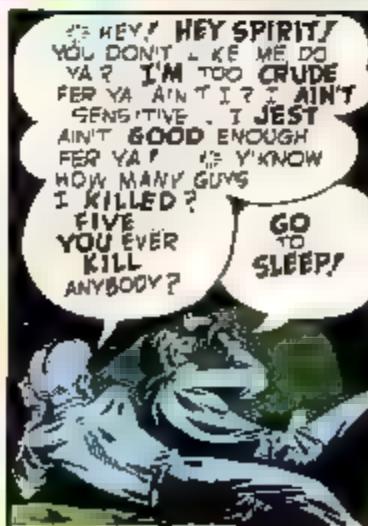
# Noon...the first day



# Dusk...the first day



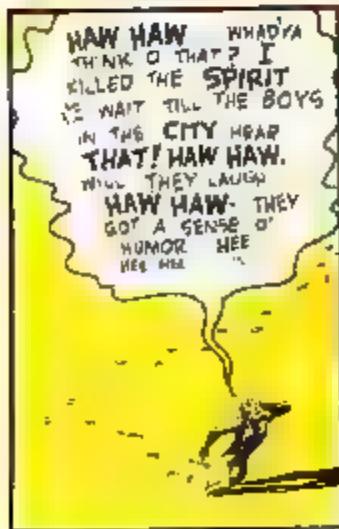
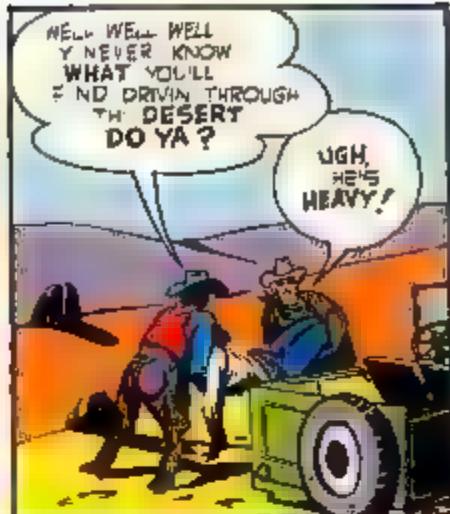
# Evening...the first day



# Morning..the second day



# Afternoon..the second day



On July 17,  
Air Force rescue  
Plane carried  
Spirit back to  
Central City  
....His prisoner  
was never found.



DICK WHITTLE

July 23, 1950

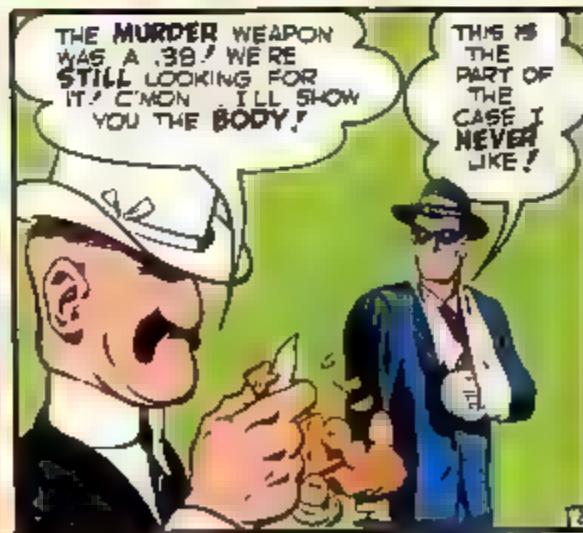
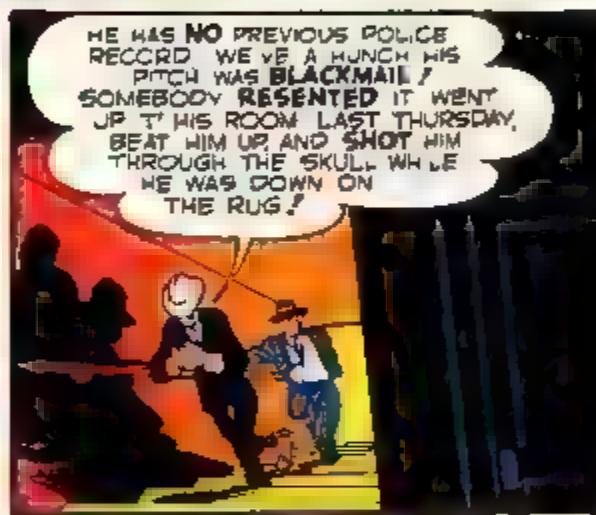
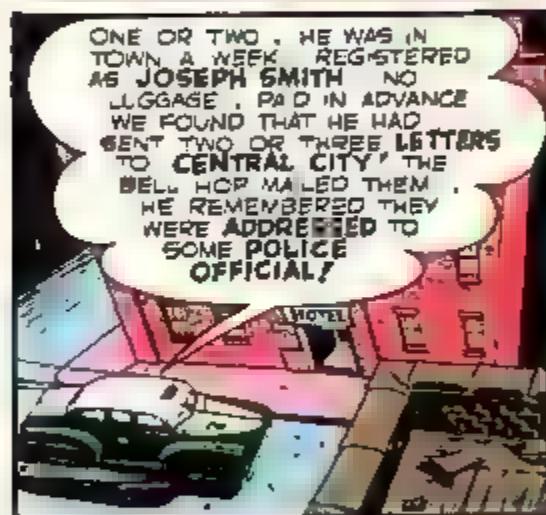
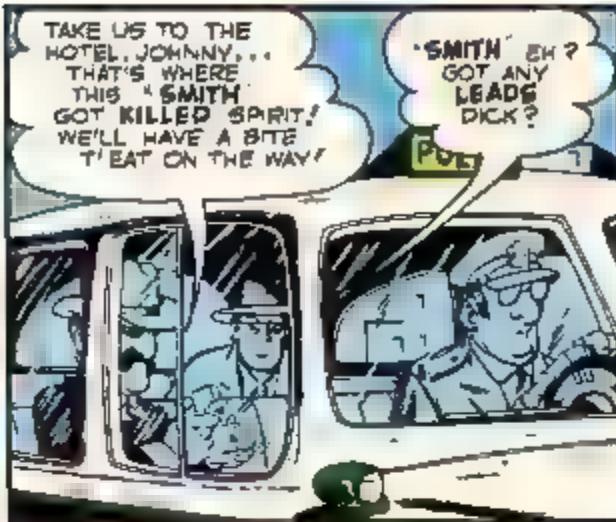
ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE

The town of Riverbend lies sixty miles south of Central City....it has a population of 3,000 and a police force of fifteen.



It is a typically quiet little suburban community.....  
Nothing ever happens there .....





THE CHMES IN THE CHURCH STEEPLE RING OUT NINE O'CLOCK. IT BEGINS TO RAIN.

"SMITH, JOSEPH"  
HERE HE IS WHITTIER  
NICE EMBALMEN  
JOB HUN?

GRAY'S  
ROY  
GRAY'S

HMM. HE WAS A POWERFUL-LOOKING GUY... I'D GUESS HIS AGE WAS ABOUT FIFTY.  
HE MUST HAVE PUT UP A GOOD FIGHT!

HIS ASSAILANT WAS BETTER! WE'RE WORKIN' ON THE COP ANGLE? ONLY A GUY WHO KNEW HOW TO FIGHT COULD DO A JOB AS NEAT AS THIS WITHOUT CUTTING THE GUY UP!

IT MIGHT EXPLAIN  
THE LETTERS  
HE SENT OUT!

YEAH! WE'RE  
WORKING ON  
THE ANGLE  
THAT THE  
KILLER CAME  
FROM CENTRAL  
CITY! SOMEHOW  
"SMITH" LOOKS  
FAMILIAR! WHAT  
D' YOU THINK?

I THINK I WANT  
TO GO OVER  
THAT HOTEL  
ROOM WITH  
A FINE-TOOTH  
COMB... LET'S  
GO!

TWO BALLS AND TWO STRIKES  
ON THE BATTER. WINSLOW  
IS IN A HOLE NOW. RUNNERS  
HEAD OFF. THERE'S  
THE PITCH!!

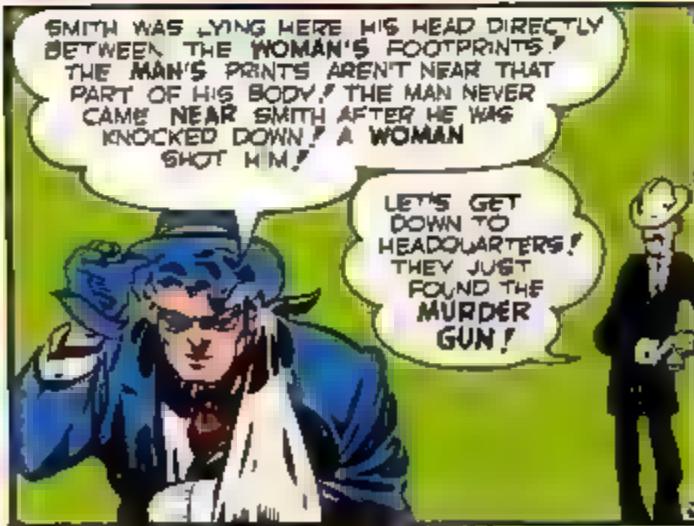
CRACK! WE'LL NEVER  
WIN THE PENNANT  
WITH THAT  
WINSLOW  
ON THE MOUND!

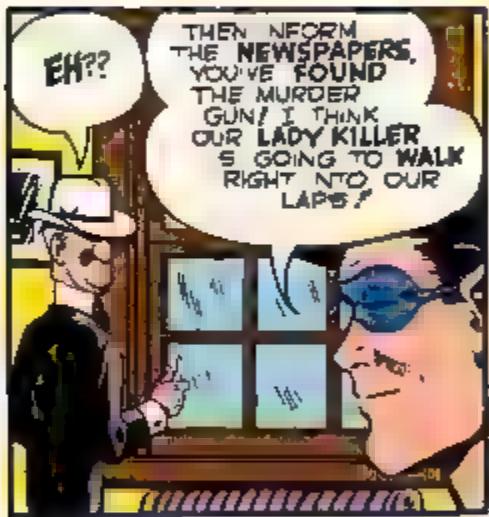
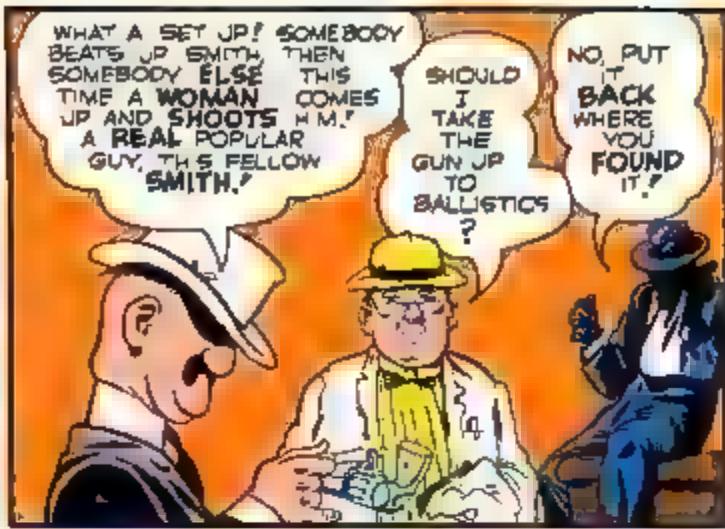
CRACK!  
AND THERE  
IT IS! A LONG  
TOWERING DRIVE!

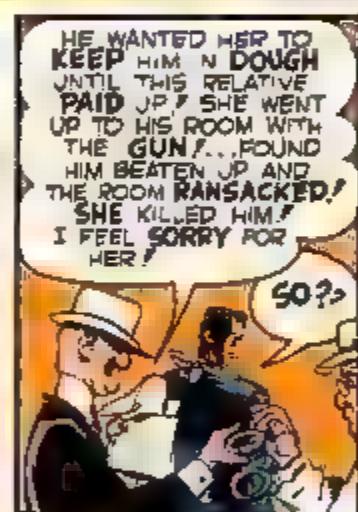
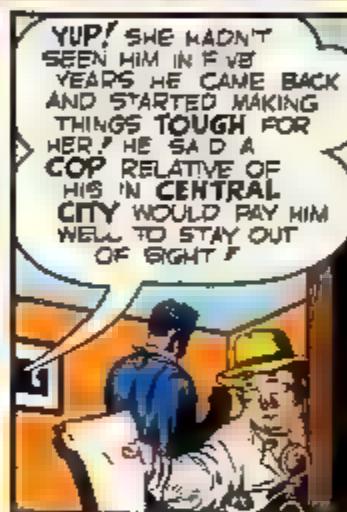
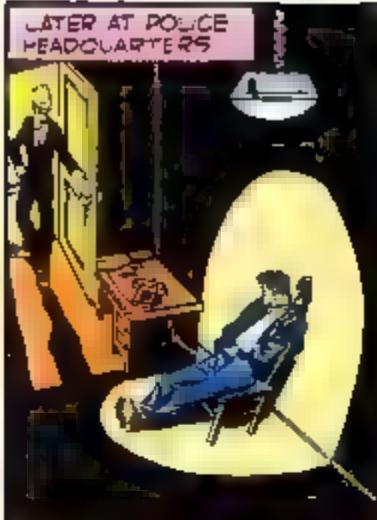
YOU SCOOT AROUND  
BY YISELF, SPIRIT.  
I'M GONNA LISTEN  
TO THE END OF  
THE GAME!

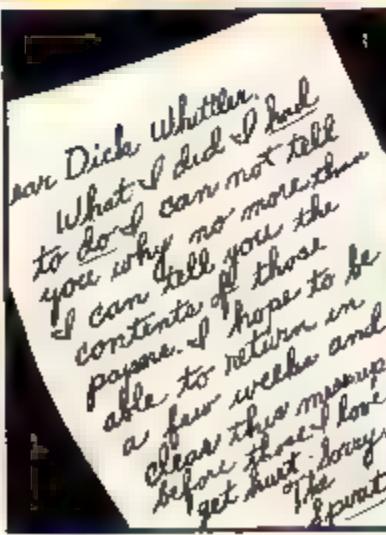
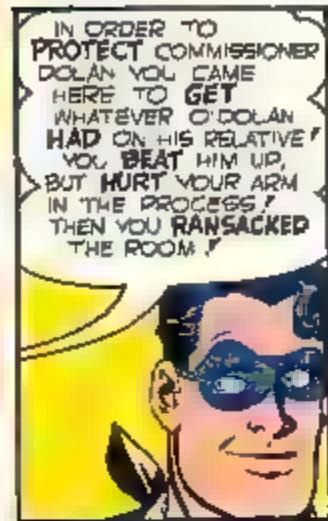
SURE, WHAT'S A  
MURDER BETWEEN  
FRIENDS?

THE STARS  
ARE SOUNDS  
CRAZY  
A HOMER?  
A HOMER?











## THE CHASE

July 30, 1950

**T**O MEN LIKE WOODY DINERS ARE A LIVING.  
TO THE PILOTS OF THE HIGHWAYS TO THE TRUCK  
DRIVERS... DINERS ARE A HARBOR IN THE  
SEA OF CONCRETE AND LANDSCAPE....

**BUT TO US...**

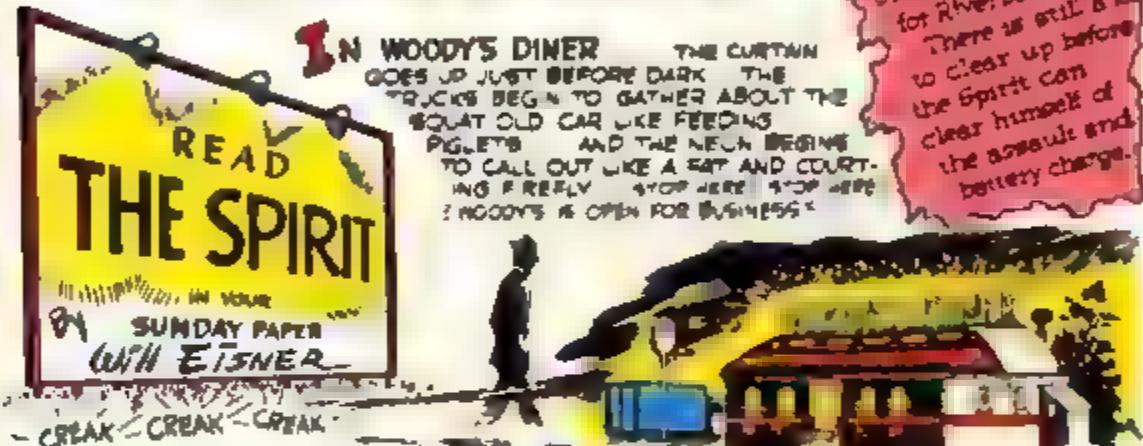
THESE RETIRED WAGONS THESE GAWD BOXES  
ARE LITTLE STAGES FOR GIANT DRAMAS SCENES OF  
THE BEGINNINGS OR THE ENDS OF EPISODES IN THE  
COUNTLESS COMEDIES AND TRAGEDIES ON THE LOOM  
THAT TURNS OUT THE FABRIC OF AMERICAN LIFE

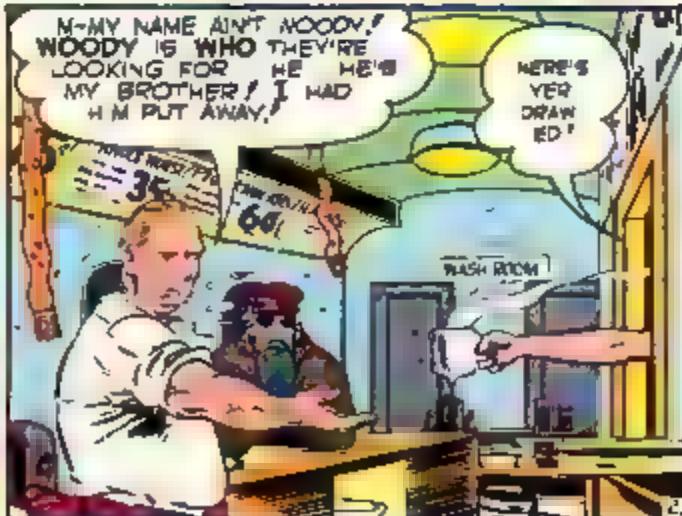
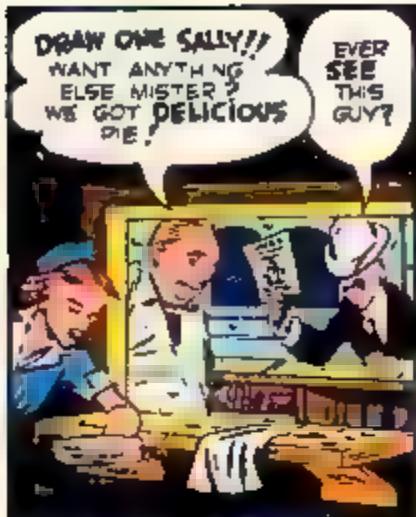
**ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE**

**Editor's Note:**

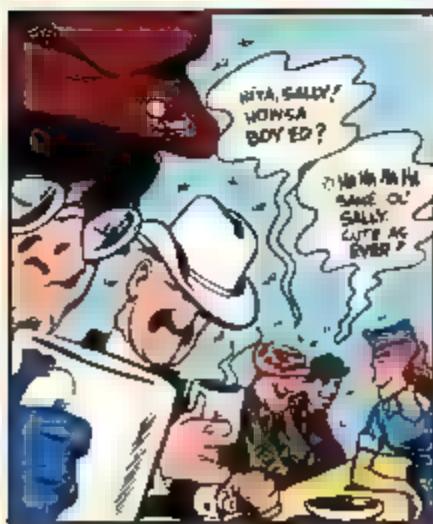
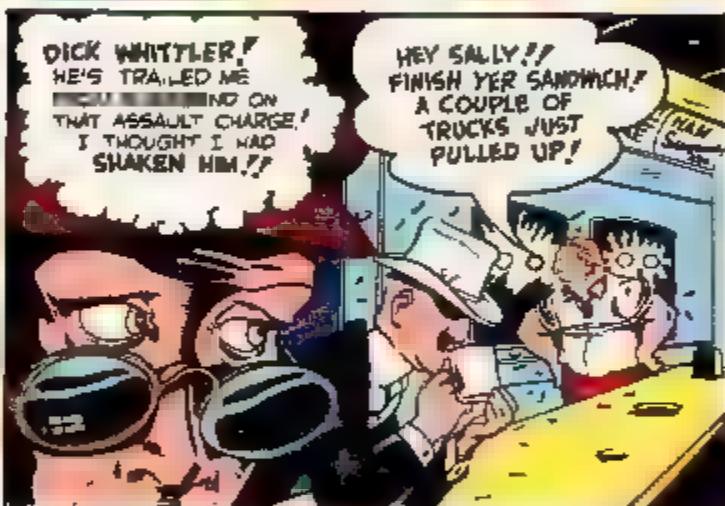
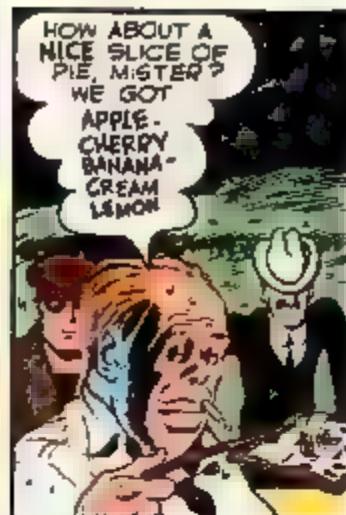
The Spirit while clearing the case of the boxer O'Donnell managed to escape the cruiser bus efficiency. Dick Whittler detective for Riverbend police. There is still a need to clear up before the Spirit can clear himself of the assault and battery charge.

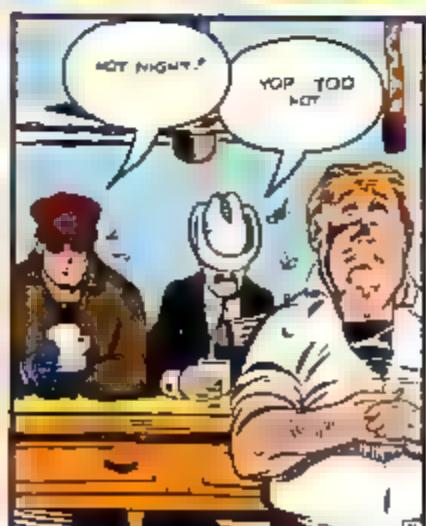
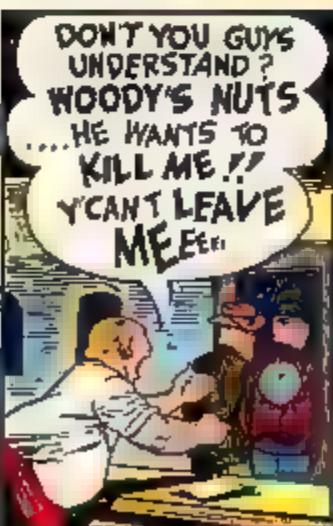
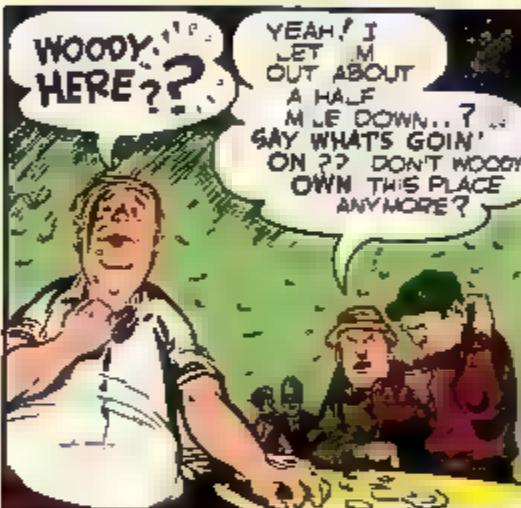
**IN WOODY'S DINER** THE CURTAIN  
GOES UP JUST BEFORE DARK. THE  
TRUCKS BEGIN TO GATHER ABOUT THE  
SOLIT OLD CAR LIKE FEEDING  
PIGLETS AND THE NECK BEGINS  
TO CALL OUT LIKE A CAT AND COURT-  
ING FREELY STOP HERE STOP HERE  
WOODY'S IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS



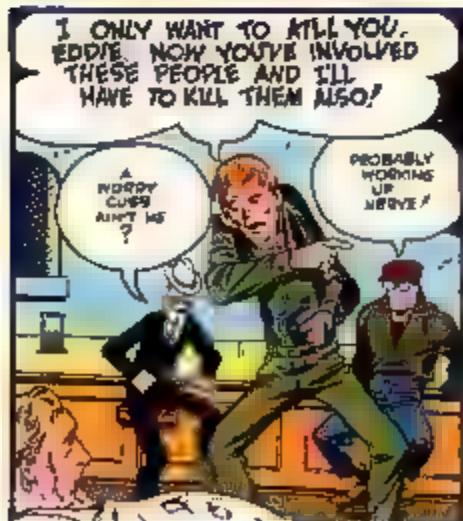
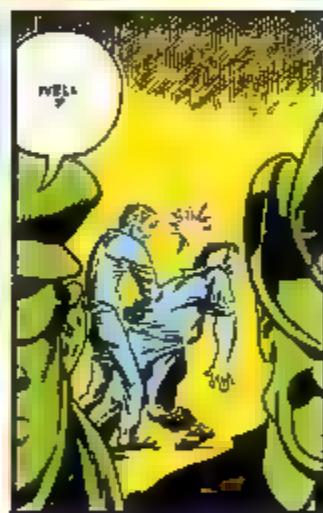
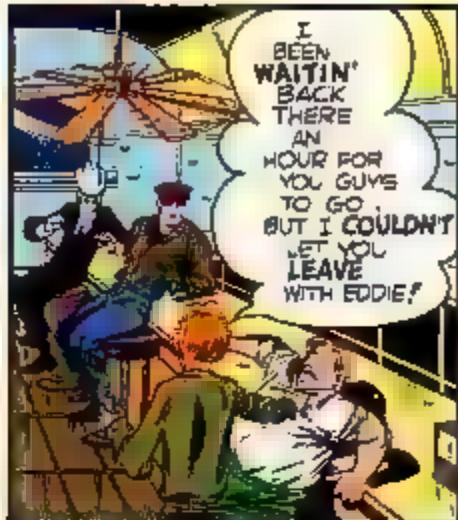


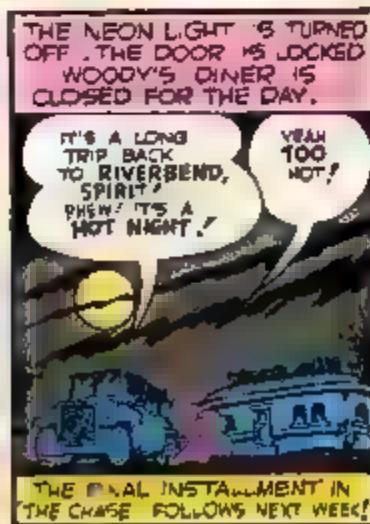
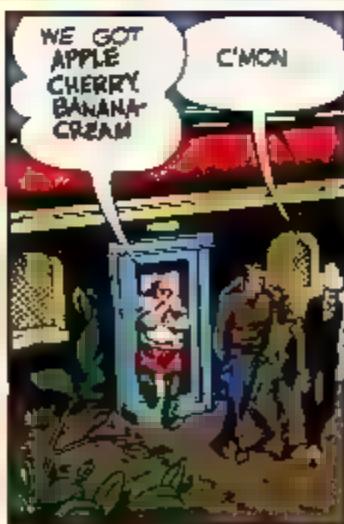
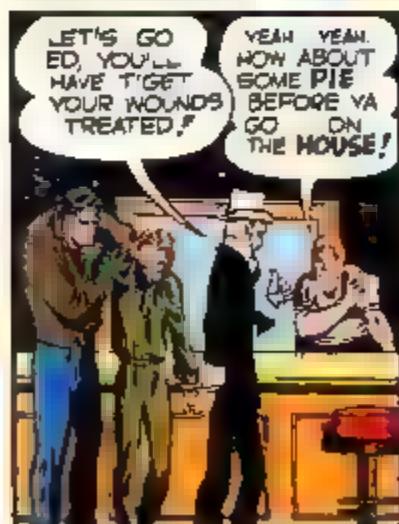
THE DINER HAS FEW CUSTOMERS NOW. TRUCKS RUMBLE BY IN THE NIGHT.













## INVESTIGATION

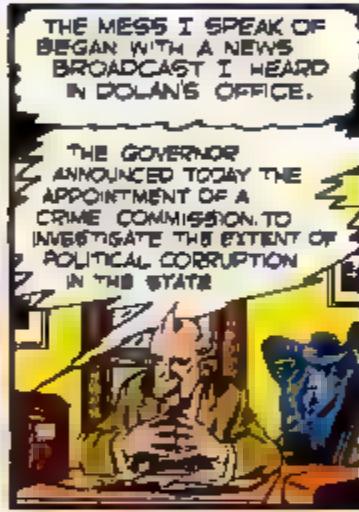
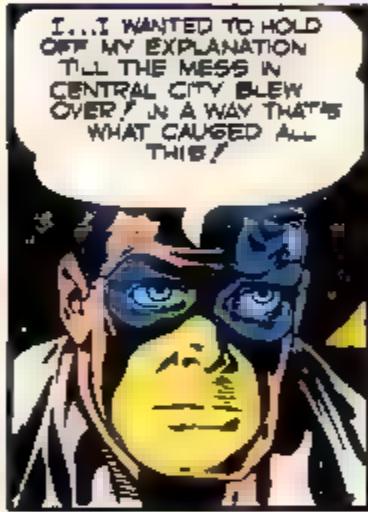
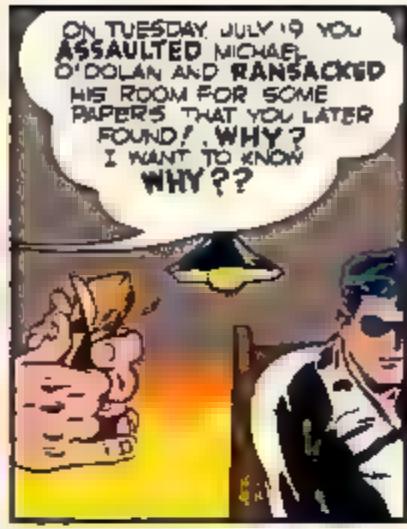
August 6, 1950

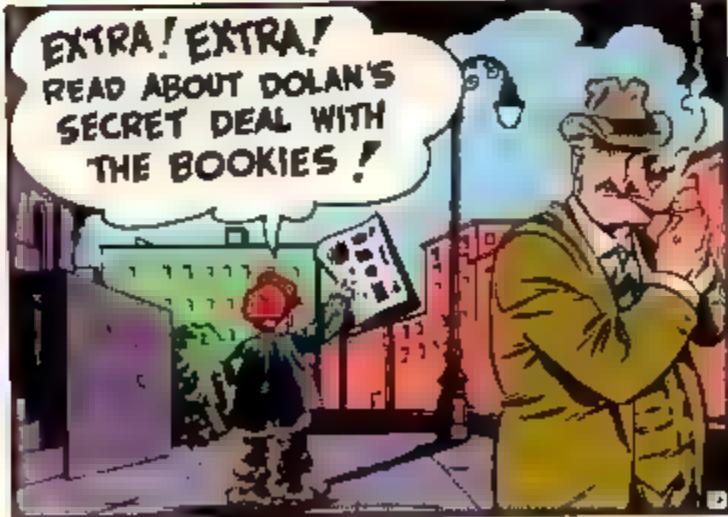
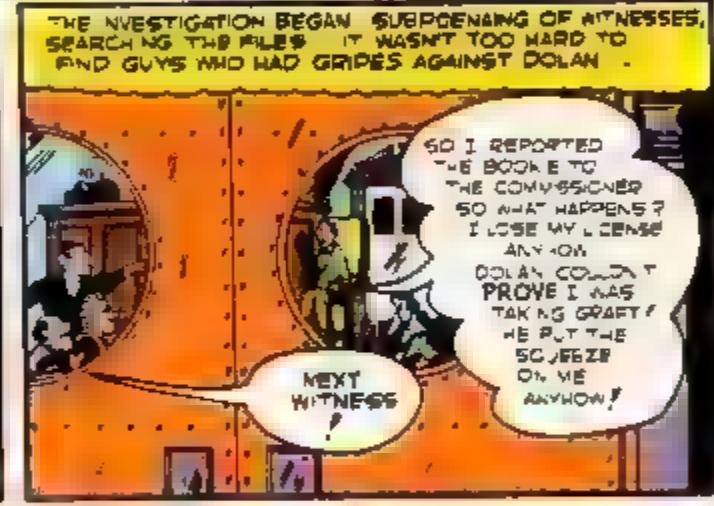
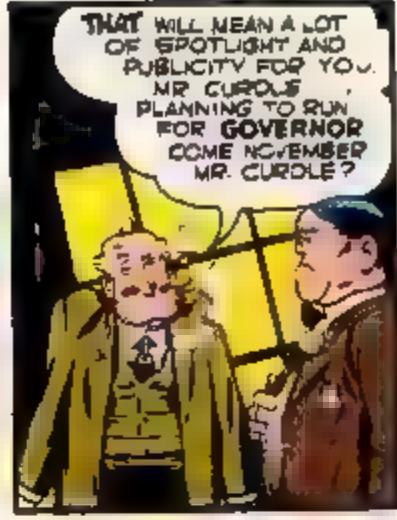
ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



By Will Eisner







DOLAN FOUGHT BACK HARD,  
ANSWERING EVERY CHARGE,  
PROVING THE EVIDENCE AGAINST  
HIM WAS PERJURED....

CURDLES GOING  
NUTS! NOT ONE OF  
HIS CHARGES IS  
STANDING UP!  
HE'S DESPERATE!

HERE'S  
YOUR  
MAIL.  
COMMIS-  
SIONER?

THE PUBLIC'S GETTING  
A LITTLE FED UP WITH  
ALL THIS SENSATIONAL  
HOGWASH! HE'LL  
HAVE TO DIG UP  
SOMETHNG CONCRETE  
OR GET OUT OF  
TOWN!

YEP IT LOOKS  
LIKE CURDLE  
IS.....?

DOLAN?  
WHAT IS  
IT?

I PICKED UP THE TORN-OFF  
CORNER OF THE ENVELOPE  
IT WAS THE ONLY PART  
OF THE LETTER HE HAD  
LEFT BEH ND...

I WAITED IN DOLAN'S OFFICE  
ALL AFTERNOON. HE DIDN'T  
RETURN. THEN AT FIVE  
O'CLOCK THERE WAS  
A PHONE CALL.

RING  
RING  
RING

SPIRIT, IS DADDY  
THERE?

NO,  
ELLEN  
WHY?

HIS BANK JUST CALLED  
UP. HE'S JUST  
WITHDRAWN  
ALL HIS  
SAVINGS!  
SPIRIT I'M  
AFRAID

SO  
AM I  
ELLEN  
SO AM I...

DOLAN CAME BACK  
LATE THAT NIGHT. HIS  
FACE WHITE AND  
HAGGARD. HE GOT  
TWO MORE OF THOSE  
LETTERS DURING THE  
NEXT WEEK

THAT DID IT... I HAD TO FIND OUT WHAT THE CONTENTS OF THOSE LETTERS WERE. I BROKE THE LOCK ON DOLAN'S DESK.

HERE THEY ARE! HOTEL ST. JAMES IN RIVERBEND FROM MICHAEL O'DOLAN! HOLY SMOKE! THAT'S DOLAN'S HALF BROTHER!

You don't send me the money I want. Your real do well brother will sell his testimony to Mr. Curdle

BLACKMAIL! F  
DOLAN'S HALF BROTHER APPEARED AGAINST H M CURDLE. HUNDRED'S  
NEED ANY EVIDENCE PUBLIC REACTION  
WOULD RUIN DOLAN.  
THAT'S WHY DOLAN'S BEEN PAYING OUT ALL THAT MONEY!

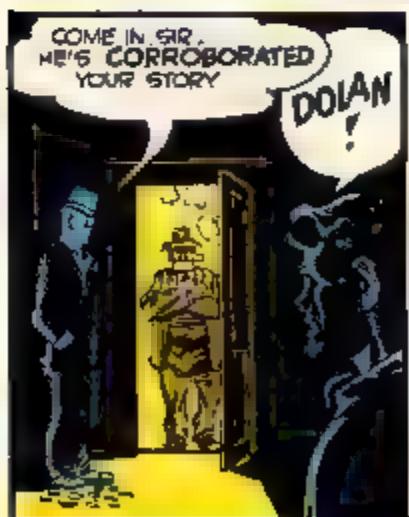
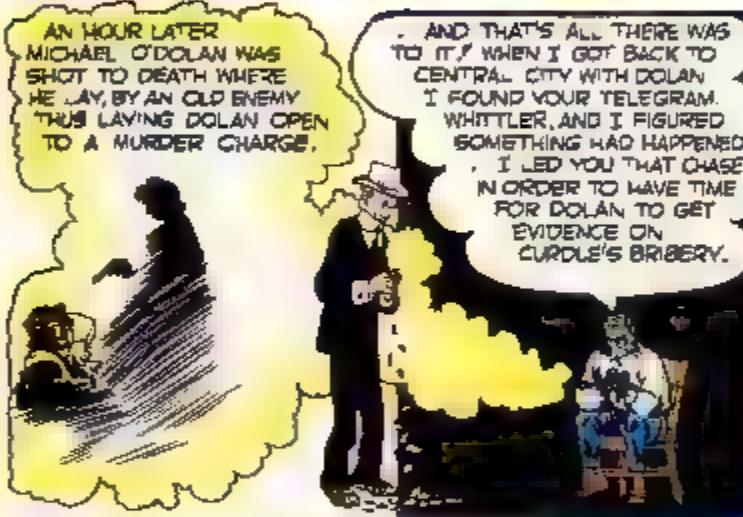
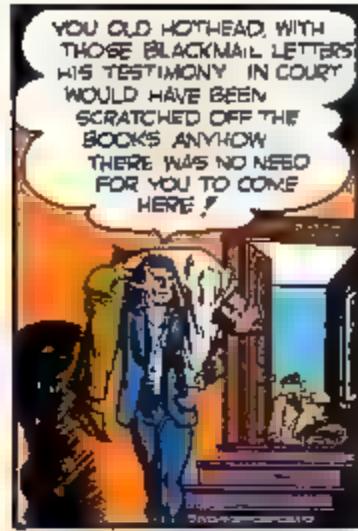


WELL FROM THERE ON IT WENT FAST. I GOT INTO RIVERBEND AT 2:00 A.M.

I REACHED O'DOLAN'S ROOM AT 2:30 A.M. AND FOUND THAT DOLAN HAD GOTTEN THERE FIRST

I JOINED THE STRUGGLE







## THE WRECK OF OLD 78

August 13, 1950

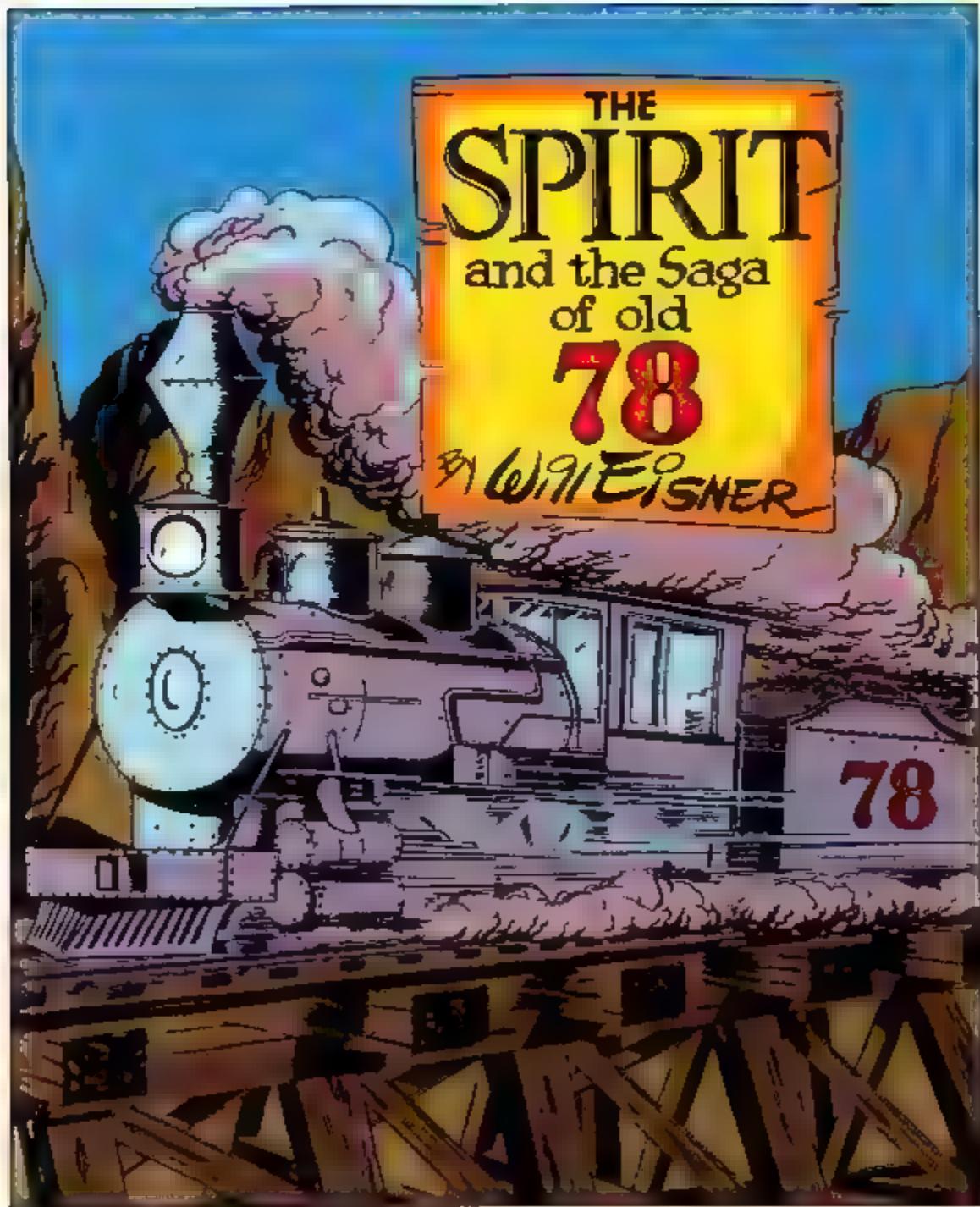
ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE

# THE SPIRIT

and the Saga  
of old

# 78

by Will Eisner



**O**ld 78 had been makin' the run across Cooty's Gorge since 1890....



**I**t was a slow tiresome trip, takin' four hours, but ol' 78 never once faltered....

**A**nd because of this devotion to duty for over a half a century, Old 78 had become a western tradition...



**B**ut then some politicians got t'talkin' about economy and faster transportation and afore y know'd it they was buildin' a new track on the floor of Cooty's Gorge alongside Boilin' River....



**W**ell it wasn't long till they held a big celebration. The Governor planted a golden spike and everybody had a good time singin' an' eatin'.....



**T**hey unveiled a new streamliner that could make the trip in an hour...



**A**nd Old 78, she was revired to a barn.. to be forgotten fer the rest of her days.....

ABOARD THE NEW STREAMLINER  
FIRST RUN OUT...

WELL SPIRIT THIS IS  
THE FIRST TRIP ON THE  
NEW COOTY GORGE  
LINE AND WE'RE  
RIDING ON IT!

JAH-JAH TOO  
BAD I HAD TO RAIN  
ON SUCH AN OCCASION

PHOOEY IF PROFESSOR  
RELUCK AIN'T AN  
OLD FRIEND OF  
MINE I'D NEVER  
HAVE TAKEN  
THIS SKEEDOO TRIP!

COME NOW  
DOLAN  
WHERE'S YOUR  
PATRIOTIC  
FEVER? THE  
CENTRAL CITY  
MUSEUM WILL  
HAVE QUITE AN  
ITEM IF IT CAN  
OBTAIN OLD  
ENGINE #78!

WHERE DO WE  
GO NOW?

I SEE ZEB STOKER  
THE ENGINEER FOR  
OLD 78! HE WAS  
RETRED AND  
BOUGHT THE ENGINE  
WITH HIS PENSION  
MONEY!

LATER...

VESSIR I MADE THE RUN WI'  
OLD 78 FOR SIXTY YEARS... WE  
NEVER MISSED A DAY THE OL  
LADY AND ME SO WHEN THE  
TWO OF US WAS TURNED OUT  
T'PASTURE I BOUGHT  
HER JO!

WE'D LIKE TO  
BUY THE ENGINE  
FROM YOU  
MR STOKER

THE CENTRAL CITY  
MUSEUM HAS  
AUT-OR-ZED  
ME TO

MUSEUM?  
OLD 78  
IN A  
MUSEUM?  
WHY MISTER THE  
MUSEUM IS FER  
THINGS THAT AIN'T  
GOT NO USE ANY-  
MORE! I'M JEST  
HOLDIN OL 78  
TIL THEY CALL  
FOR HER AGAIN!

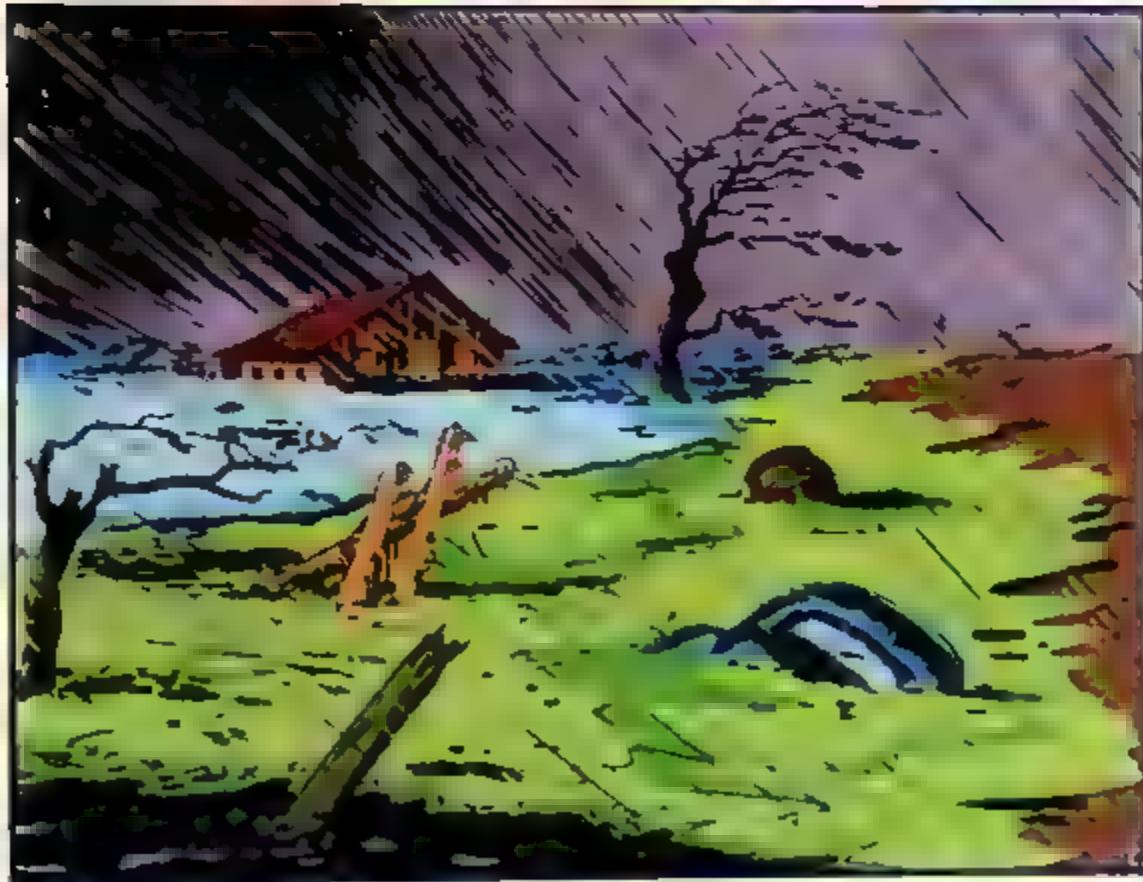
WHY SPIRIT  
THAT OLD  
COOT'S  
CRAZY!

NO. ALL HIS LIFE IS TIED  
UP IN THAT ANCIENT  
HUNK OF IRON! WHEN  
HE GIVES UP ON OLD 78  
ZEB STOKER WILL BE  
GIVING UP ON  
HIMSELF DOLAN!

Well, sir, the new streamliner kept puffin and the rain keep fallin' day in and day out...



And Boilin' River was growin' restless... and there was one fearful thought on everybody's mind....



THE VALLEY WAS FLOODED, HOMES UPROOTED, AN CROPS DESTROYED. NOTHIN LIKE THIS HAD EVER HAPPENED IN THE VALLEY BEFORE

WE'VE GOT TO GET AID TO THE HOMELESS PEOPLE!

SORRY, ALL PLANES HAVE BEEN GROUNDED!

THERE'S ONLY ONE OTHER WAY TO GET THROUGH BY TRAIN!

BUT THE TRACKS ALONG THE RIVER ARE FLOODED! THEY'RE USELESS!

I DON'T MEAN THAT TRAIN!

Y'MEAN OLD 78!

LATER

DO YOU THINK SHE CAN MAKE ONE MORE RUN ZEB?

SHE'LL DO IT FER ME! LOAD ER UP!

OLD 78 WAS LOADED WITH TONS OF RELIEF SUPPLIES....THE HEAVIEST LOAD SHE'D EVER HAD TO CARRY...

IT'S TOO MUCH OF A LOAD! SHE'LL NEVER MAKE THE CLIMB UP THAT MOUNTAIN!

SHUT YER MOUTH! I SAID SHE'D DO IT AN SHE WILL! LET'S GO!!!

THE OLD ENGINE TREMBLED UNDER ITS LOAD

YAHOO!

SHE'S MOVIN'! SHE'S MOVIN'!

YEAH...BUT CAN SHE MAKE THE MOUNTAIN? CAN SHE MAKE IT?

SLOWLY... SLOWLY OL' 78 SCALED THE MOUNTAIN.

COAL! MORE COAL!!

VER CRAZY ANY MINUTE NOW SHE'LL SLIP! WE CAN'T MAKE THE MOUNTAIN!

AND DOWN ON THE GROUND HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WATCHED THE BATTLE OL' 78 VERSUS THE MOUNTAIN.



The old engine puffed and puffed and finally....



Oh, they carried ol' Zeb  
from wreckage to Spencer  
But they got there  
way behind time,  
For whilst the flood-wrapped  
natives enjoyed their vittles,  
Ol' Zebner reached the end  
of the line.

Yes, we ask those who write  
this nation's history  
When those mentione 'r made  
of them great heroes in  
The march of railroads  
... say 78 Made The Grade!!  
Yes.... 78 Made The Grade!!!

While the Spirit and Dolan  
quite patched and healthy  
Have long forgotten their ride,  
The folks in the valley  
On moonless midnights  
can see ol' 78 go by...





## THE FIRST MAN

August 20, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

Some men aspire to Wealth  
Some men aspire to Power  
Some men aspire to Rule

But all Herkimer Zither ever desired from fate was to be...

## The First Man



AT 1:02 A.M. THE 'PHONE IN HERKIMER ZITHER'S BOARDING-HOUSE ROOM RANG OUT..

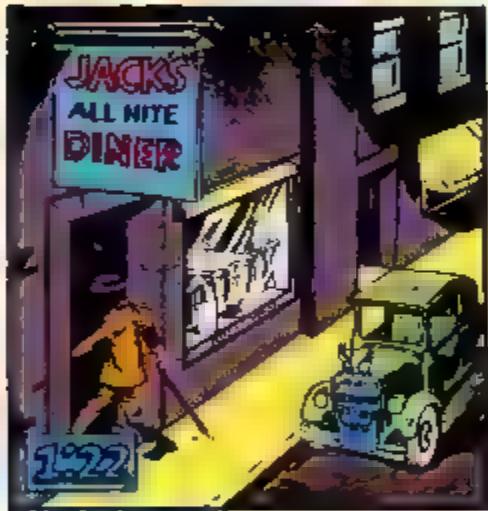


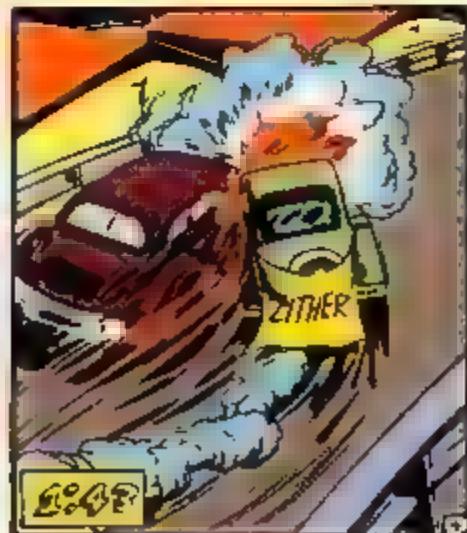
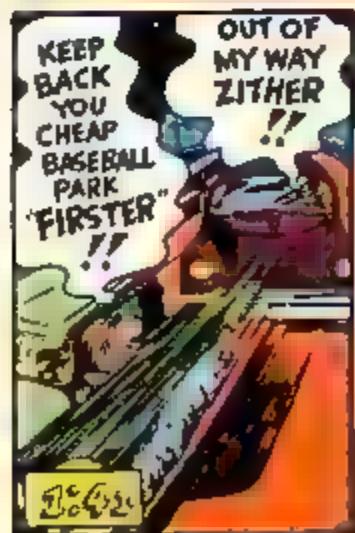
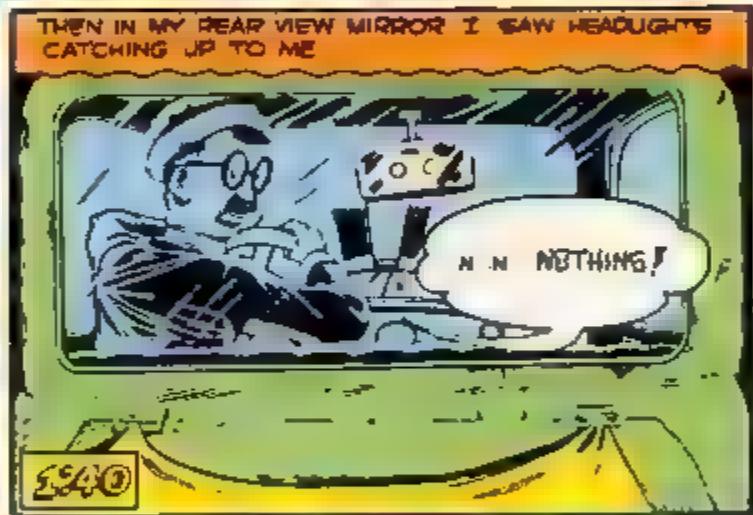
...SETTING OFF AN INCIDENT THAT WE BELIEVE TO BE OF HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE.....

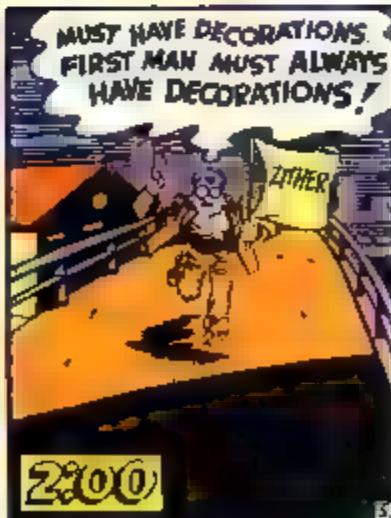


...THE PASSAGE BY THE FIRST MAN THROUGH THE GARRISON-TO-BROOKVILLE TUNNEL.

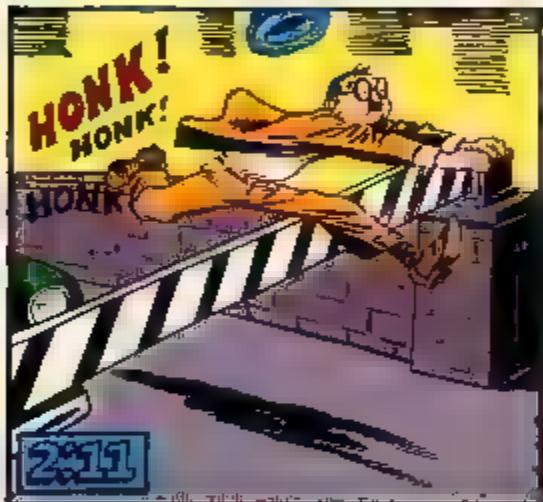
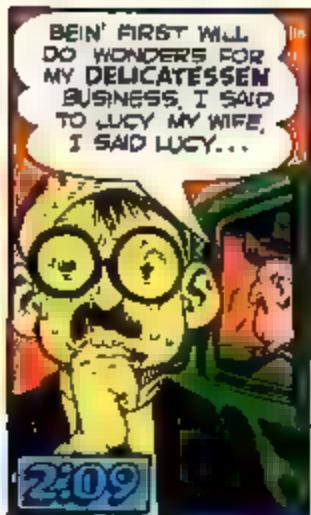












AT **7:00 A.M.** EASTERN STANDARD TIME... TRAFFIC THROUGH THE GREAT NEW TUNNEL BEGAN... THE MAYOR HAD MADE HIS SPEECH... THE PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS SHOT THEIR PICTURES... BY **9:45 A.M.** ALL INTEREST IN THE TUNNEL FADED... AND, AS FOR HERKIMER ZITHER... THE FIRST MAN..... HE WAS NEVER SEEN OR HEARD FROM AGAIN.

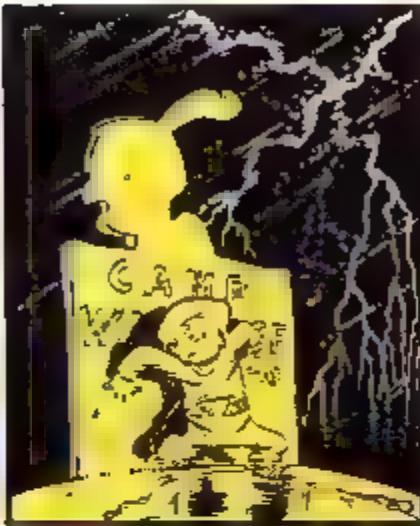


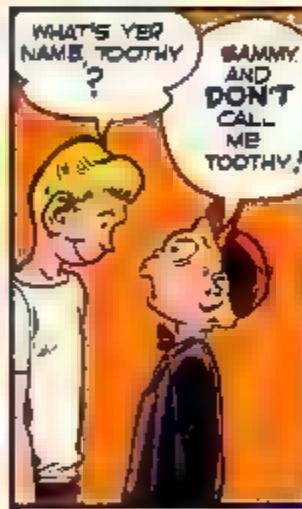
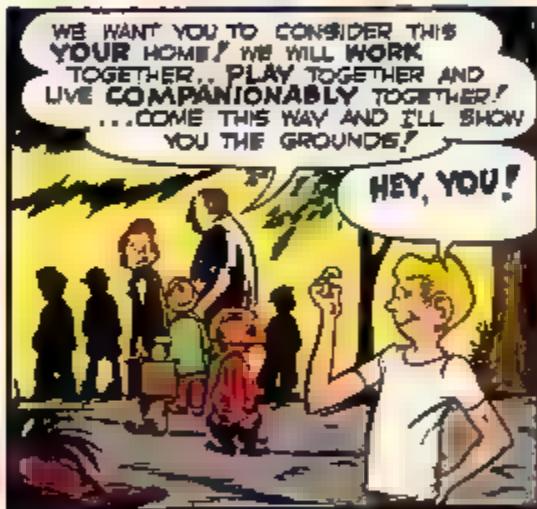
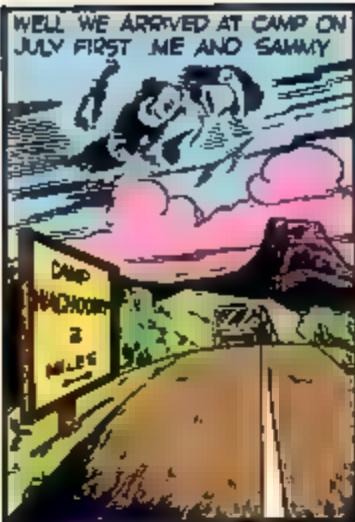


## CAMP WACHOOBEE

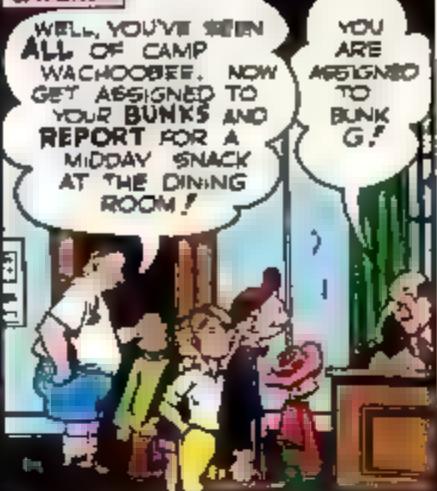
August 27 1950

ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE

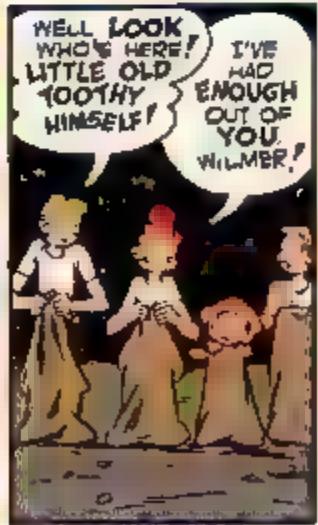
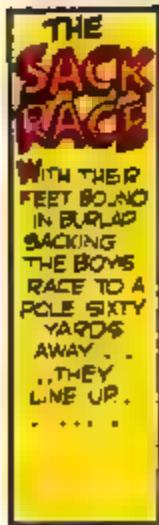
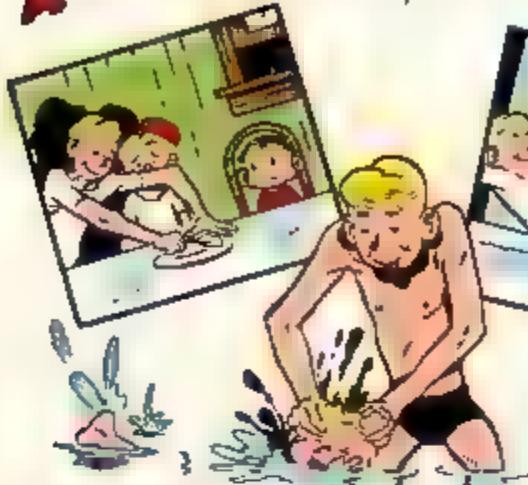


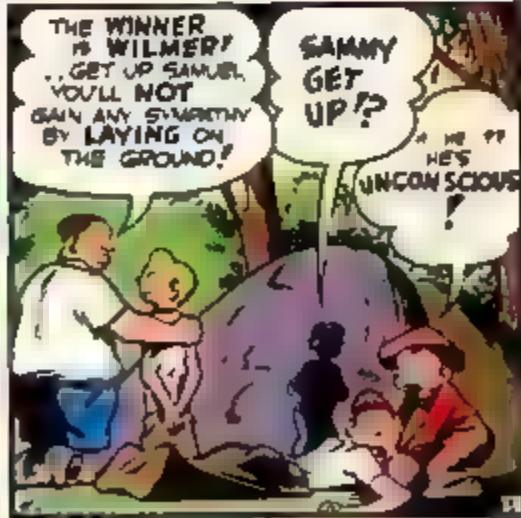


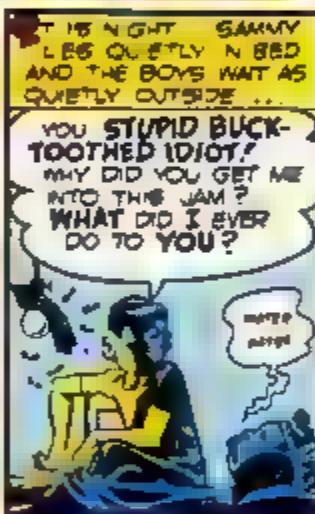
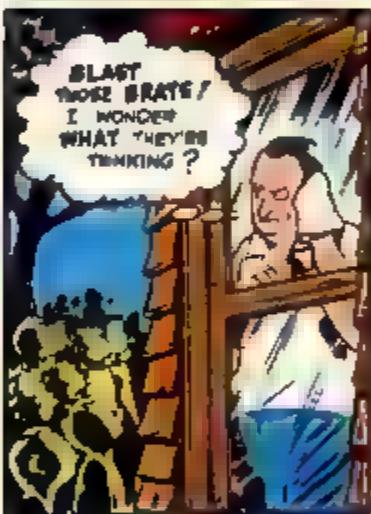
LATER.

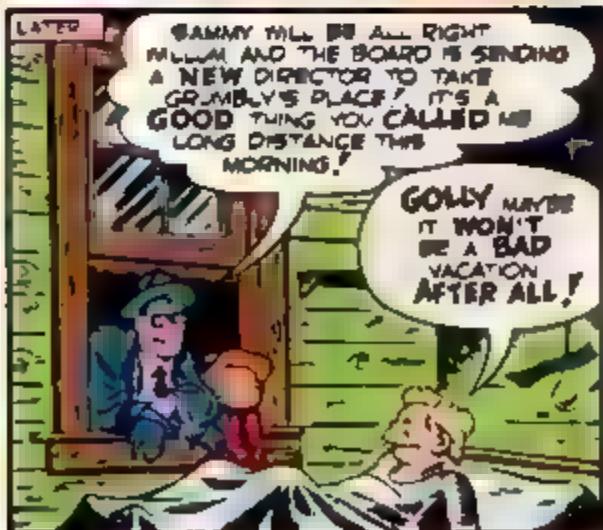
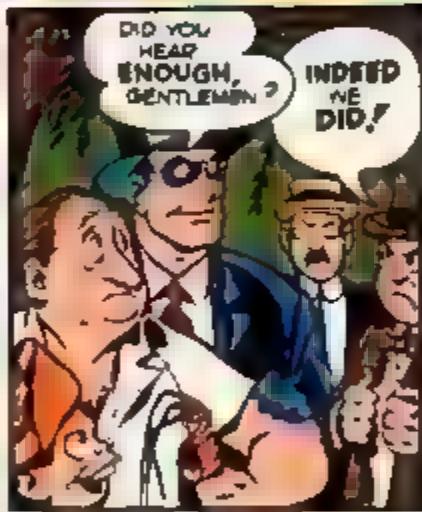


AND SO THE CAREFREE, HAPPY DAYS GO BY AT CAMP WACHOOBEE....











## CAPE COD VACATION

September 3, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

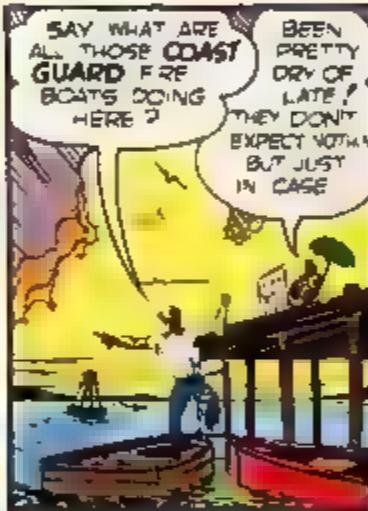
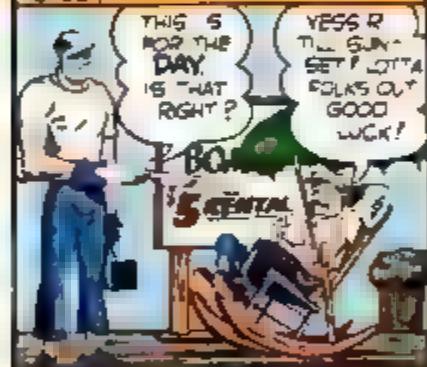
# THE SPIRIT

BY WILL EISNER



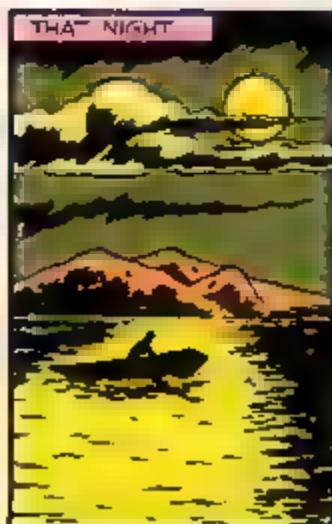
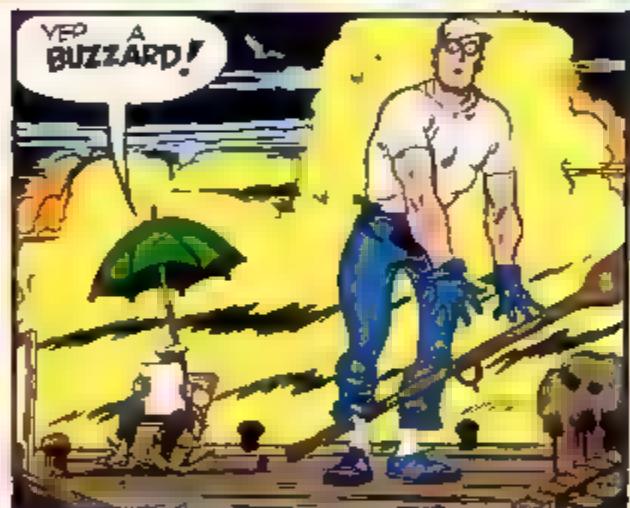
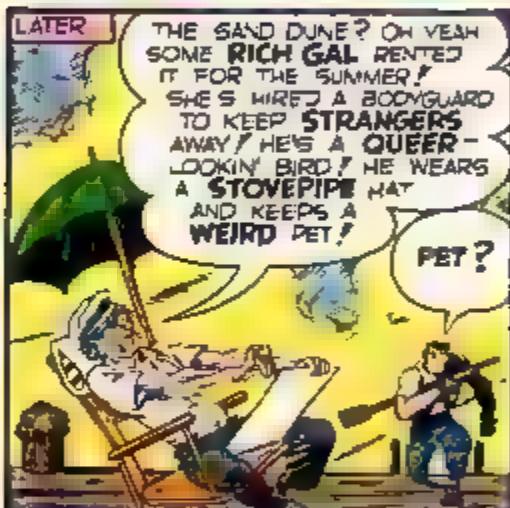
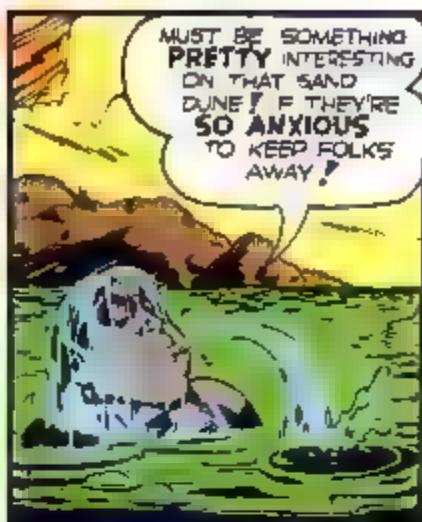
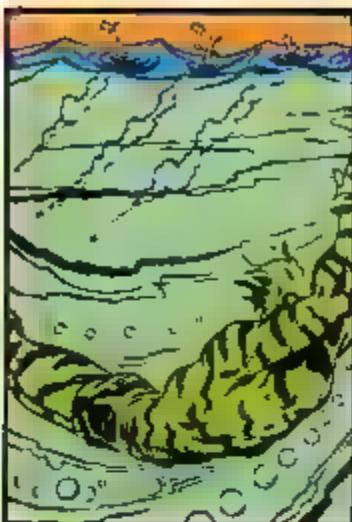


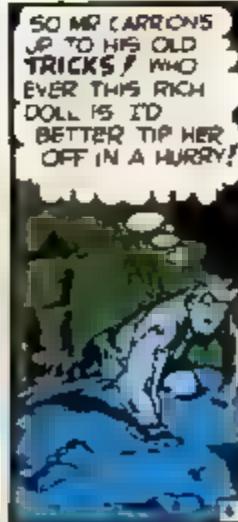
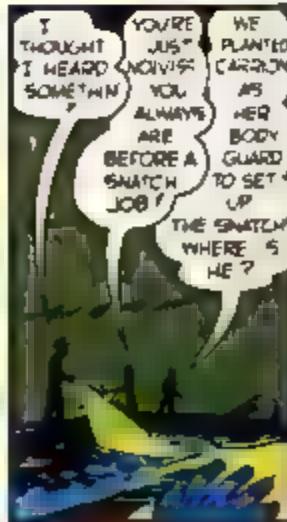
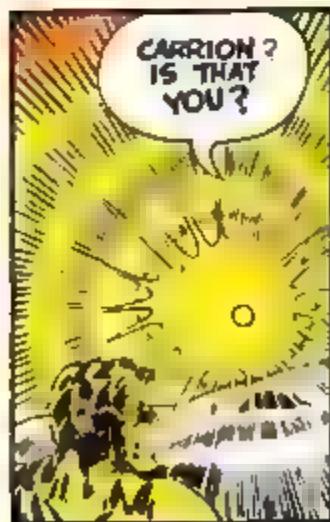
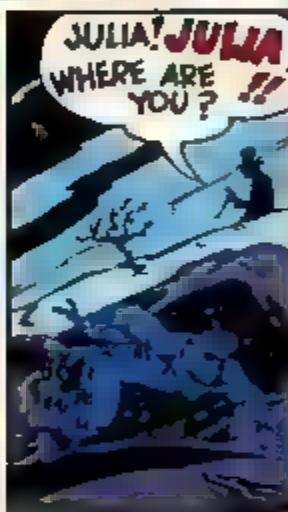
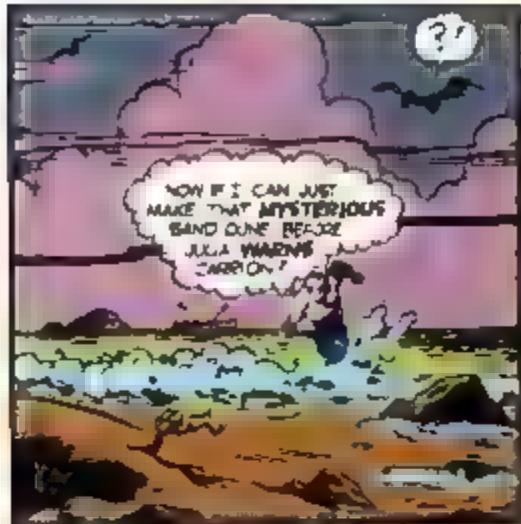
A VACATION THAT'S ALL THIS WAS GOING TO BE. I WAS TIRED, I'M NOT GETTING ANY YOUNGER AND I WANTED A REST WHILE I COULD STILL ENJOY IT.

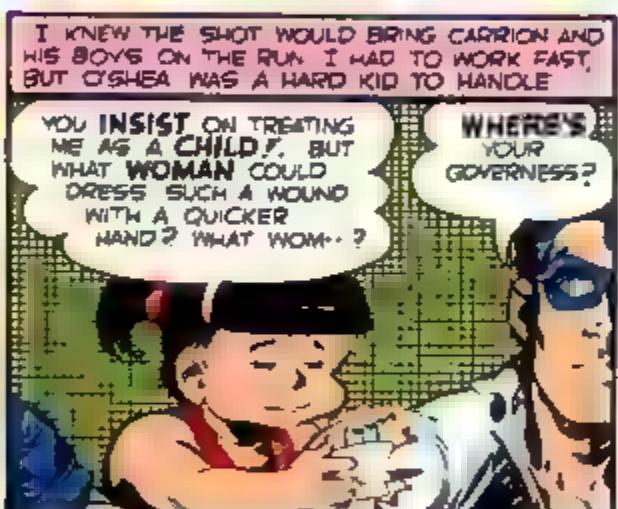
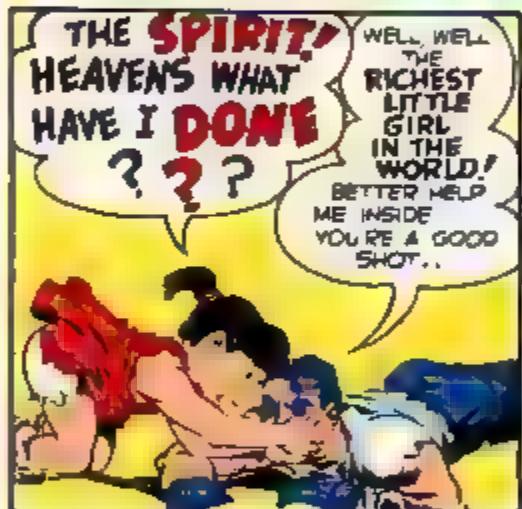


I ROWED PAST THE CROWDED FISHING AREAS FINALLY FOUND A DESERTED SECTION OF BAY. IT WAS NEAR ONE OF THE SAND DUNES THAT SURROUND THE CAPE.

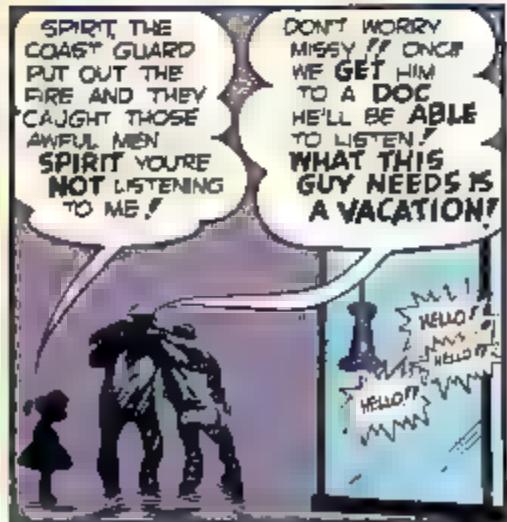














## TEACHER'S PET

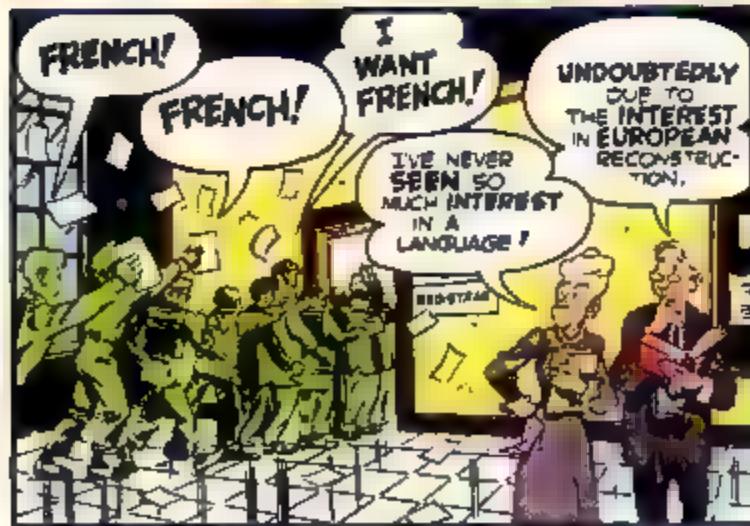
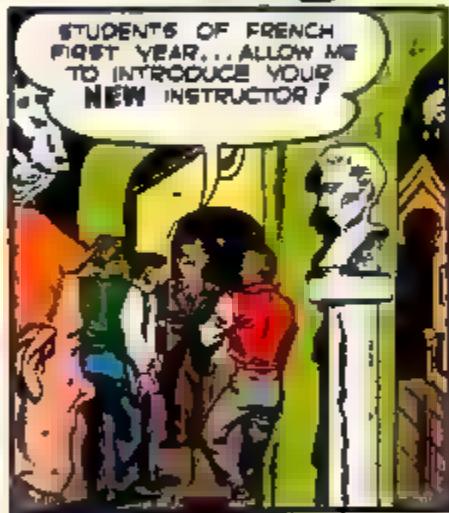
September 10, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

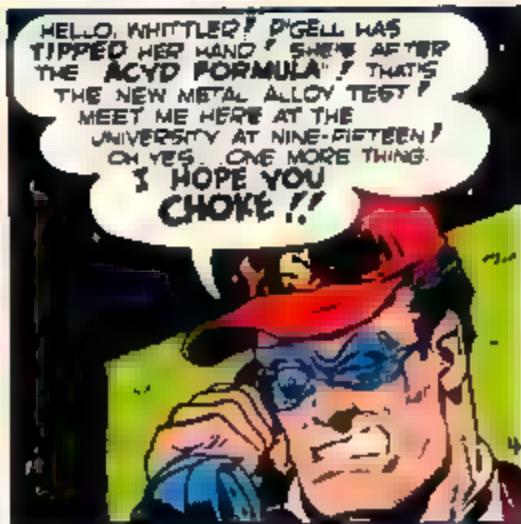
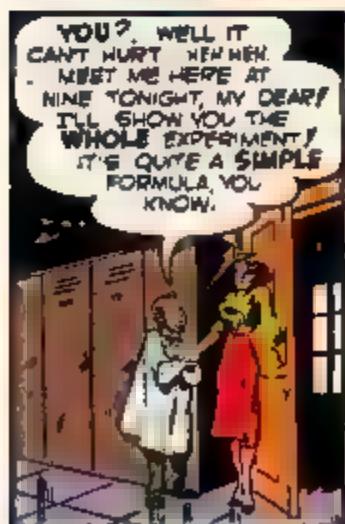
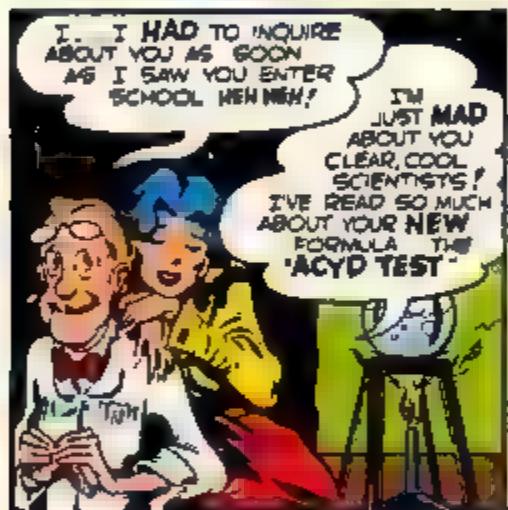
SUMMER VACATION IS  
OVER, KIDDIES! LET'S ALL  
GET BACK TO WORK!

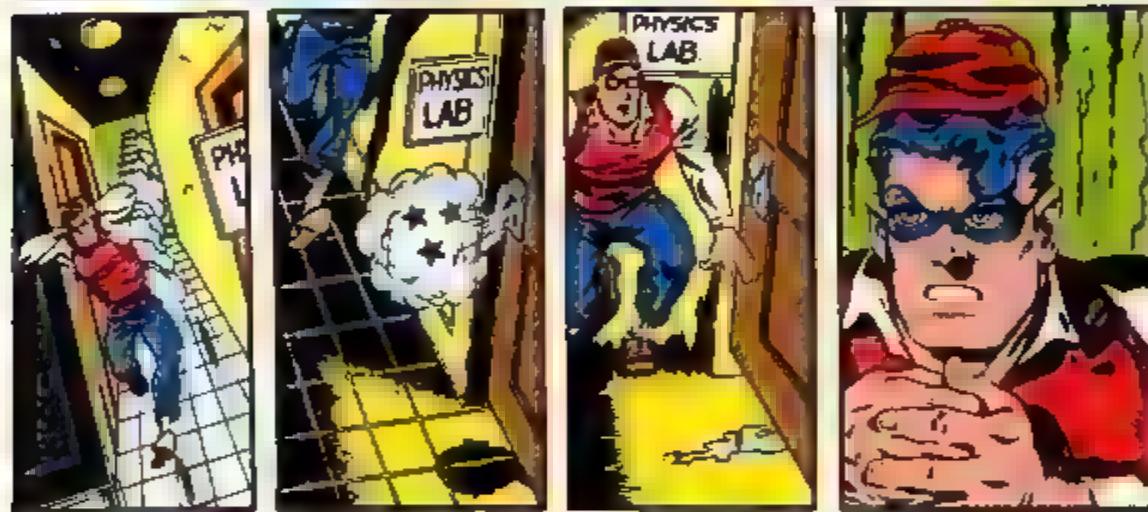


Ah yes, vacation is o'er and the leaves turn brown and drop to earth, and the air is cool and the young flock back to school... This is true in the city and small town as well...

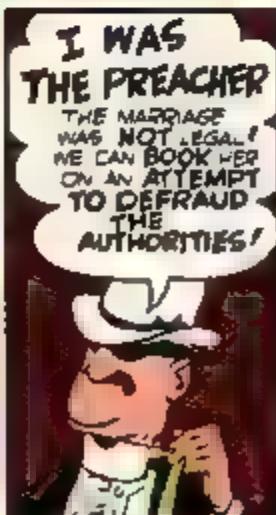
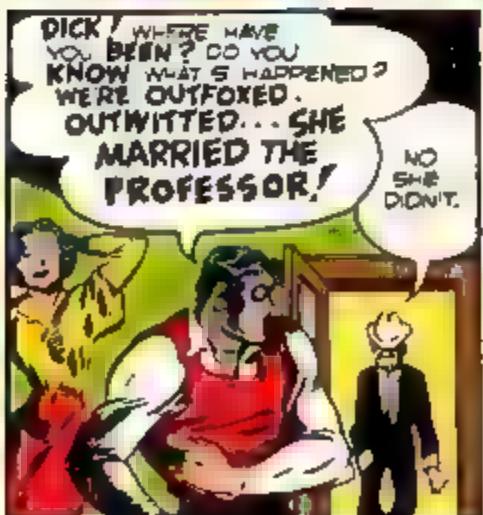
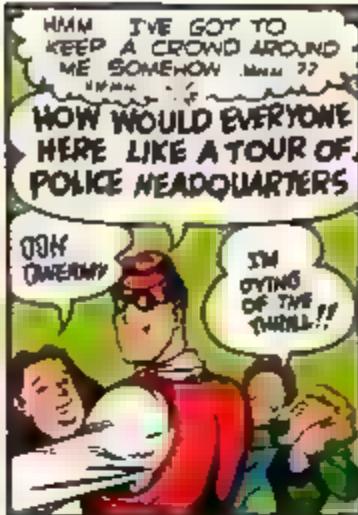














# THE STORY OF SAM

September 17, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



**T**his is Sam.



Sam is a plate.

**N**ot a real big dinner plate.



**N**ot even a dish...



**Y**er a small soup plate...



y'see, Sam was just an ordinary saucer...

**M**ost of Sam's life was spent sitting in the back of a dark cupboard and brooding about his fate..



**T**hus did Sam spend his life. And only once in a great while was he taken out of the closet... And this would be for..

A PICNIC, SPIRIT! WE'RE ALL GOING! DADDY, SAMMY, YOU AND I! I'LL TAKE MY OLD SET OF DISHES. WE'LL HAVE A REAL FEAST!



**T**his was Sam's first glimpse of the outside world... He was amazed!



**N**ever before had he seen such beauty... the trees, the flowers, the soft green grass...



**B**ut the thing that impressed Sam the most was the sight of the lovely birds flying in the sky...



**A**nd with all his saucer-like heart, Sam wished that he too could fly..



**W**ell, sir, while Sam was wishing and wishing, an interesting thing happened...



**A**nd before Sam knew quite what was happening .....



**S**am was pretty indignant about the whole thing...



**B**eing a saucer was no reason for people to shove him around...



**H**e was so angry... he... GEEK! wait a minute...



**WOW!** Suddenly Sam realized something.



**Y**es, sir, by George, he was flying... It was too much for one saucer to believe... He went into a dive...



**T**hen he did a few "immelmanns and, sure enough, he could fly...



**N**ever had a saucer been happier! Hour upon hour he frolicked in the sky...



**H**e flew in the city...



**H**e flew in the country...



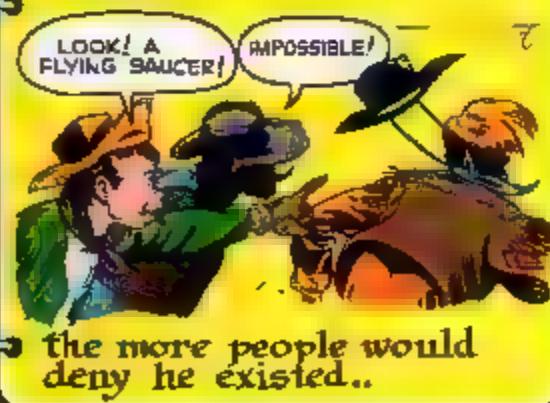
**W**ell, of course you know what happened then...



**Y**es, sir, overnight Sam was a sensation...

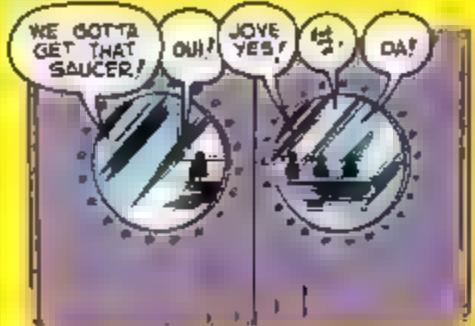


**W**herever he went, people would point to him, and the more people would see Sam ...



the more people would deny he existed..

**A**nd so it was that the United Nations Security Council was alerted and a worldwide alarm was sent out for him...



**I**t became very clear now that Sam the saucer was a common enemy, and even comic books were published about him..



**Y**es, without so much as a penny in royalties, Sam was plastered all over the newsstand..



**P**eople ran away when they saw him, and airplanes would shoot at him..



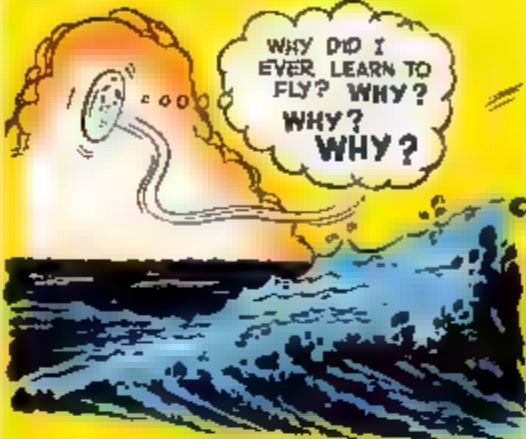
**S**am didn't want to be feared.. He wanted to be loved. His saucer-type heart yearned to be back under a meatball or a mess of spaghetti..



**H**e flew over England. He flew over France. He flew over Europe.. and everywhere he went it was the same..



**S**am staggered back over the ocean..



**H**e knew he could never again go back to the simple saucer life he once knew..



**H**e knew he could never be accepted by society as a normal saucer...



**S**lowly Sam realized there was but one way out...He flew high into the sky..



**H**igher than bird or plane had ever flown...



**AND SO...**





## SOUND

September 24, 1950

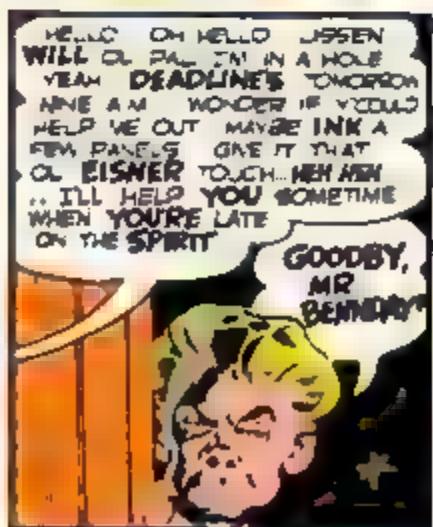
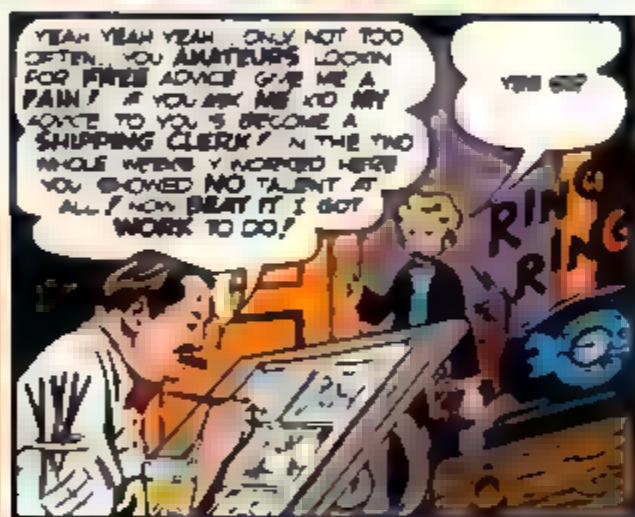
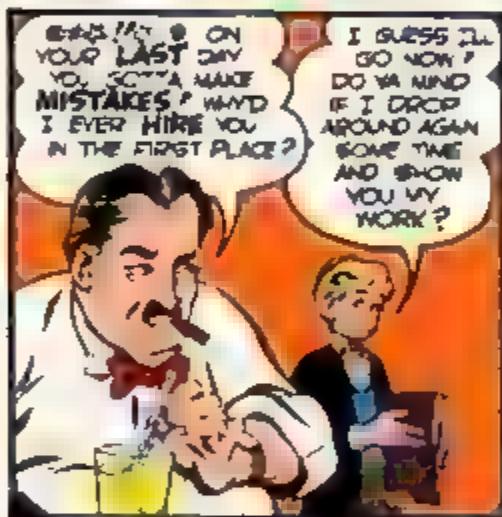
**ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE**

# **LISTEN . . .**

**D**o you hear... the scream in the night... **EEK!!**  
the awakened cry of the baby... **WHAAAAA**  
the lone passerby on the silent street... **click click**  
the heavy breathing of a man asleep... **puff puff**  
the quiet hissing of a radiator... **sssssssss**

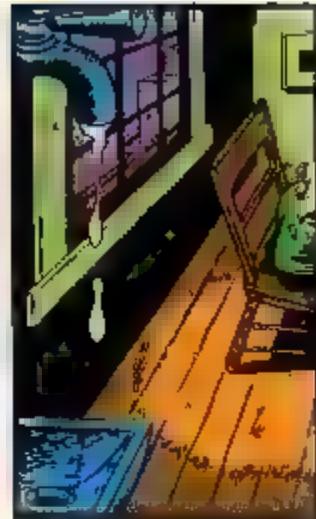
**N**ow listen..... hear the drumbeat of nothingness...  
the rhythm that is no sound...  
the terror that is **SILENCE**

# THE SPIRIT

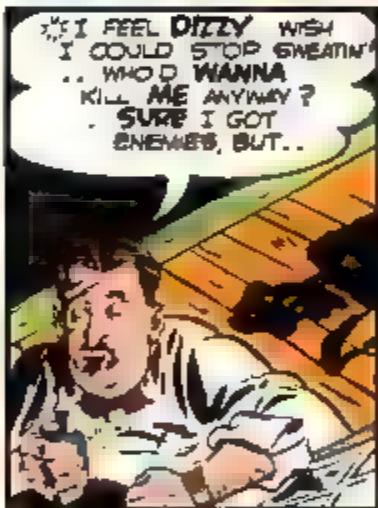
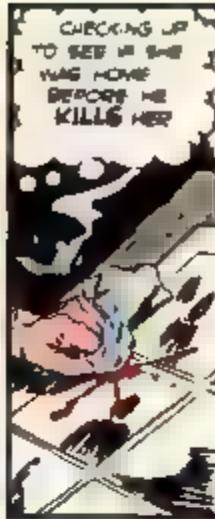
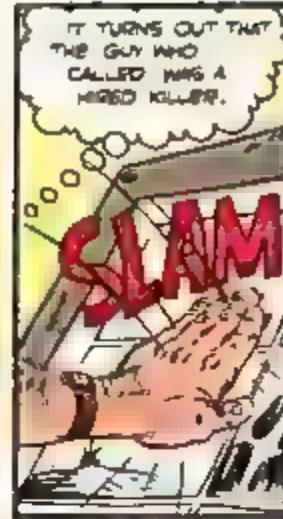


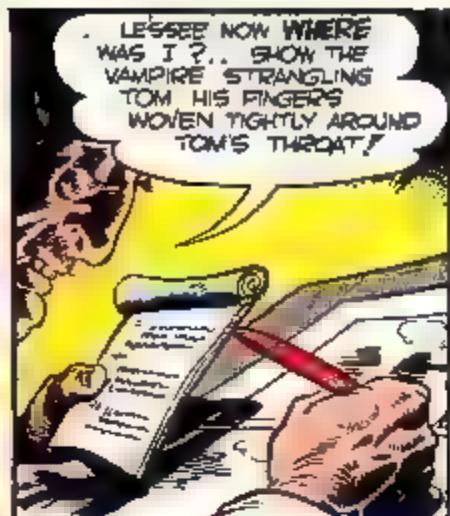
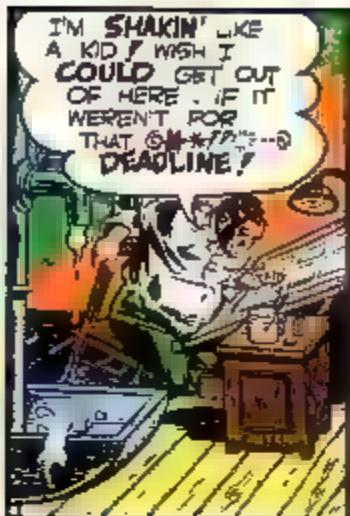
GOODBYE,  
MR BENEDICT















## THE BIG WIN

October 1, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

200 miles north of Central City, not far from the state border, lies a massive system of caves known as "Crater Cavern"....

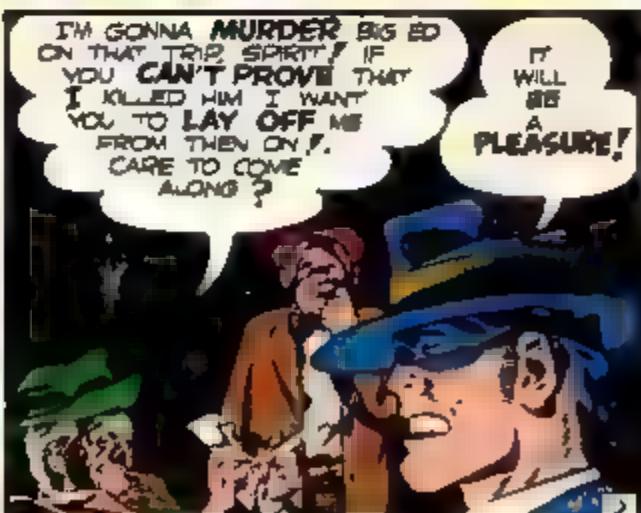
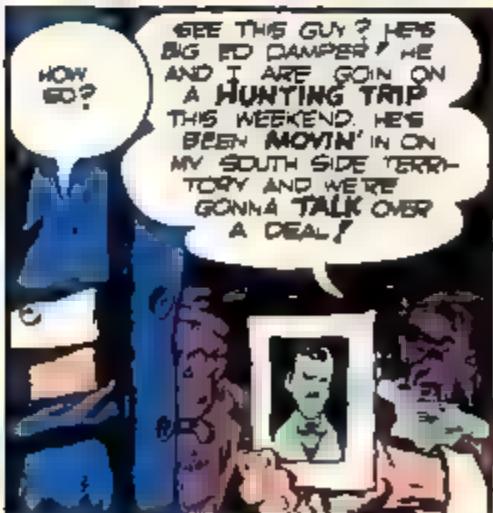
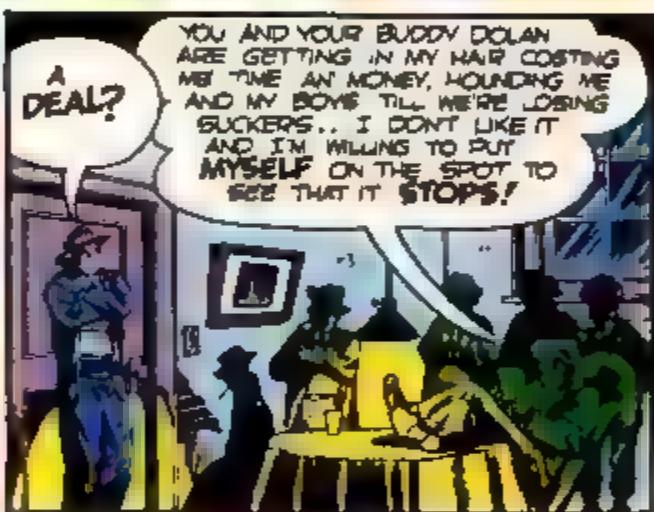
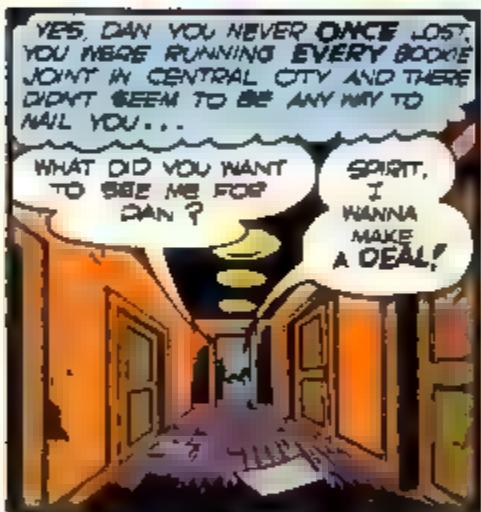
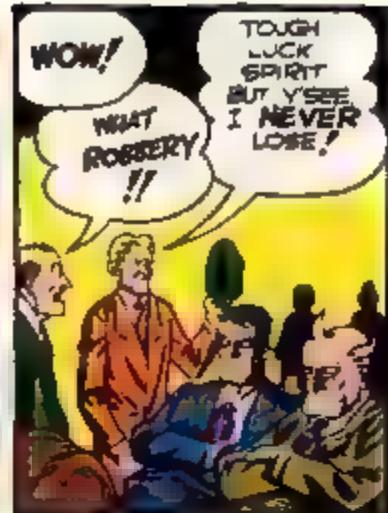


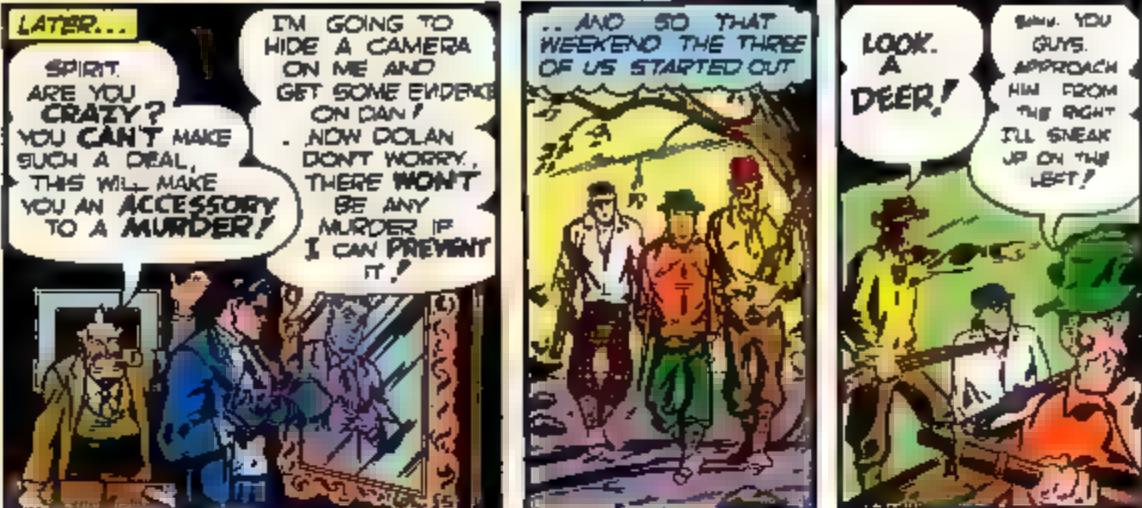
Extending eight miles under the ground, this intricate cavern, with its vari-levelled gorges and flowing streams, is a popular tourist sight....

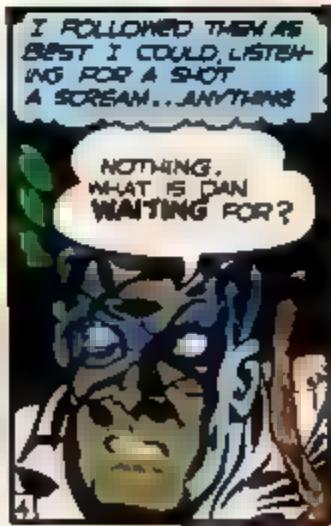
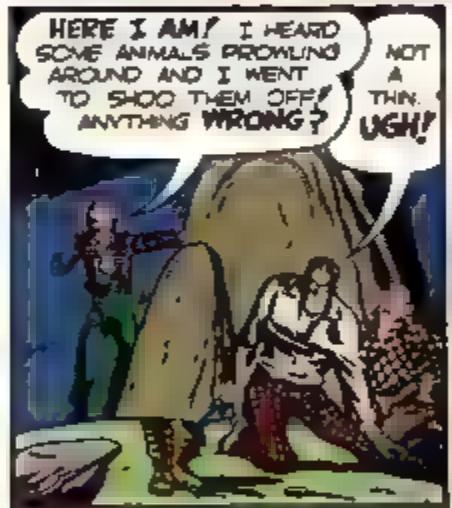


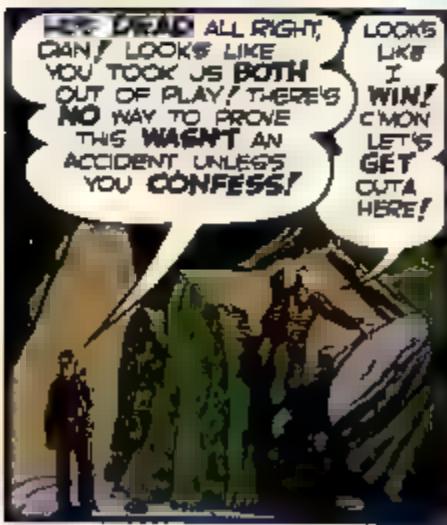
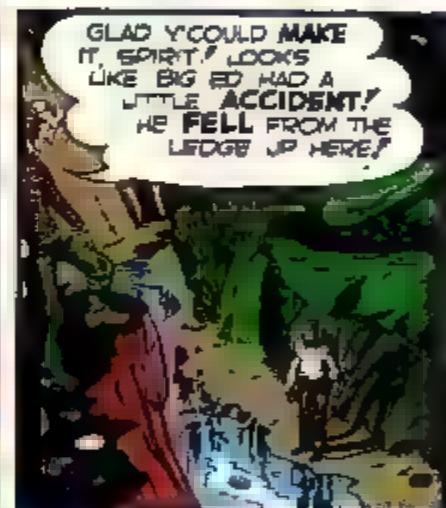
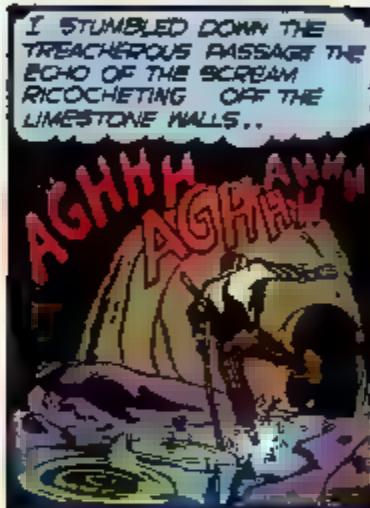
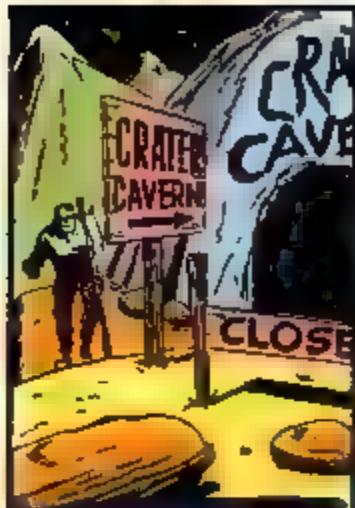
But, comes the Autumn, the state closes the cavern...and the immense limestone caves remain silent for another year...

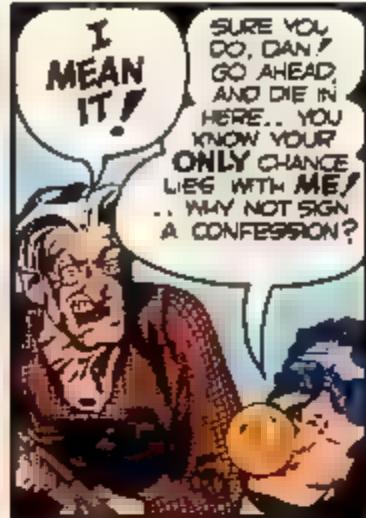


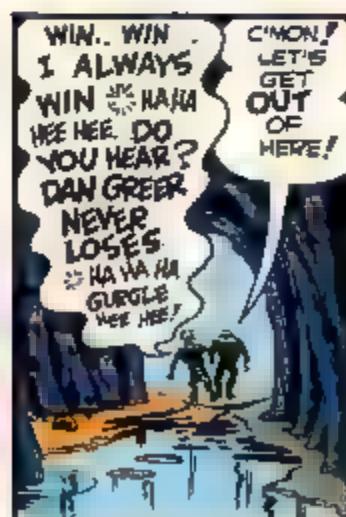
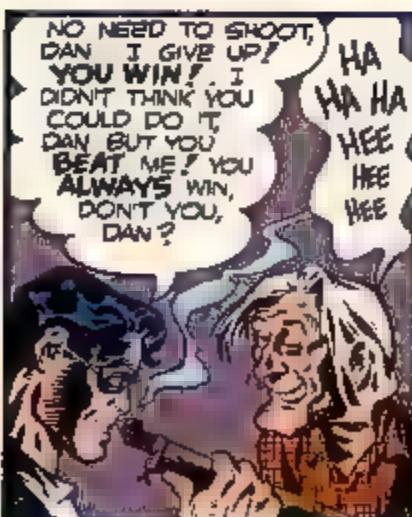
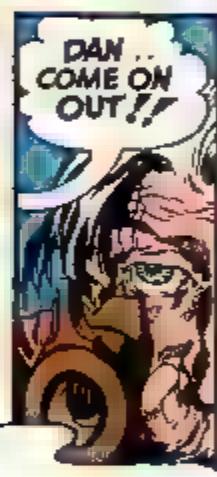














## O'SHEA'S UNCLE

October 8, 1950

ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE

In 1906 Tydeland O'Shea bought up 25 acres of barren land in Oklahoma and began drilling for oil....

Four years later he was one of the richest men in the country.... He now owned 300 oil wells and 5000 acres of rich country.

His private life was veiled in secrecy, but it is known that he entered into his first marriage at the late age of fifty-five....

Two years later he and his wife perished in an oil well explosion.... Tydeland O'Shea left one living relative, his baby daughter named, "Darling".

That was ten years ago. Now at the age of ten, Darling O'Shea is the richest girl in the world....

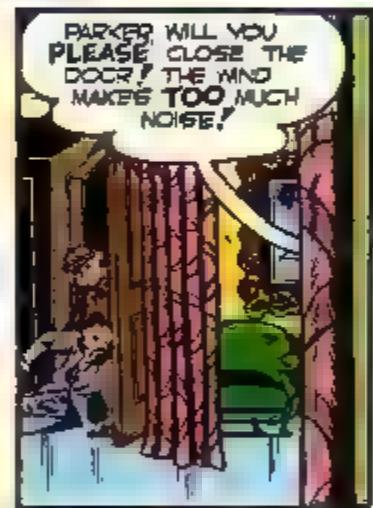
# THE SPIRIT

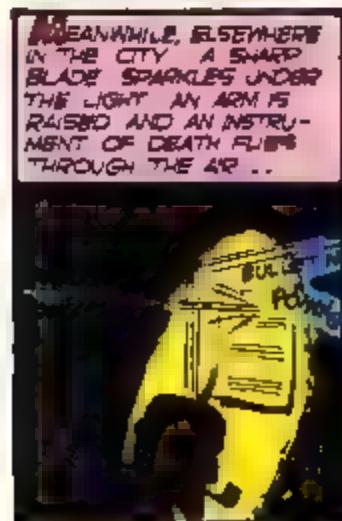
Will Eisner

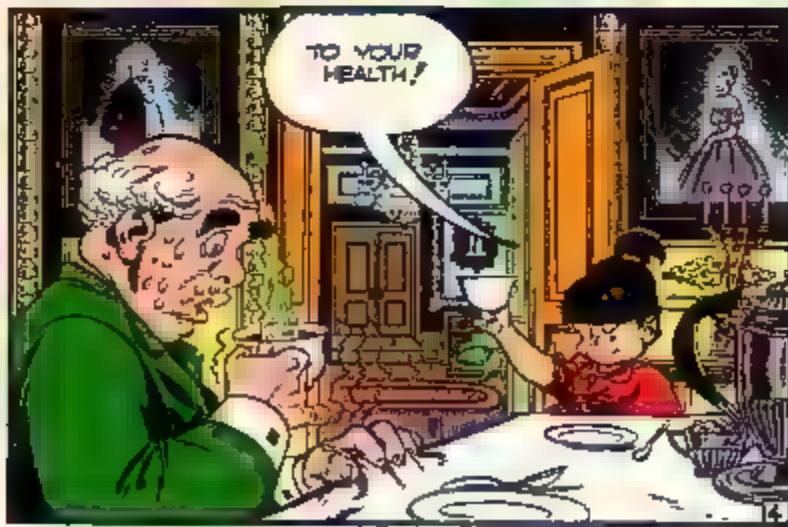
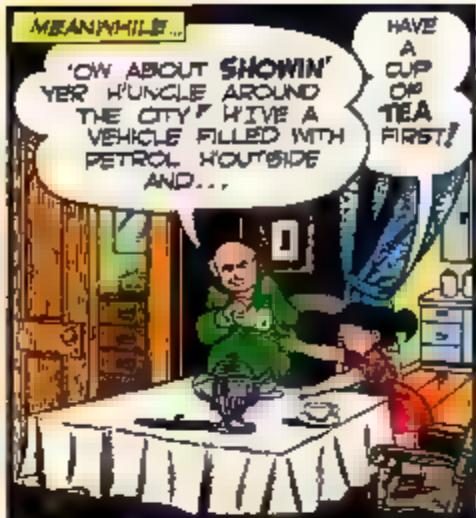


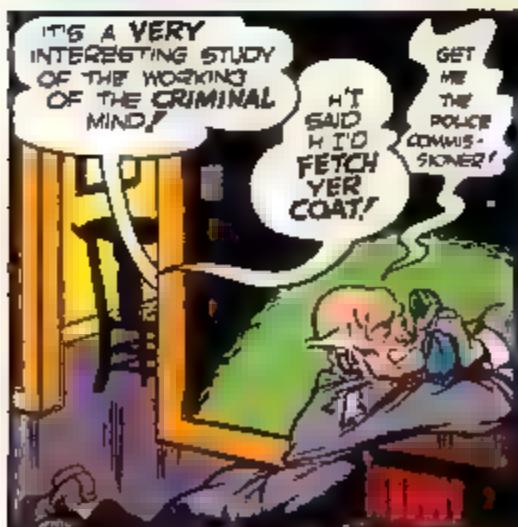


YOU ARE  
MISTAKEN,  
SIR. MISS  
O'SHEA  
HAS NO  
UNCLES!  
NOW GET  
YOUR FOOT  
OUT OF THE DOOR  
AND...

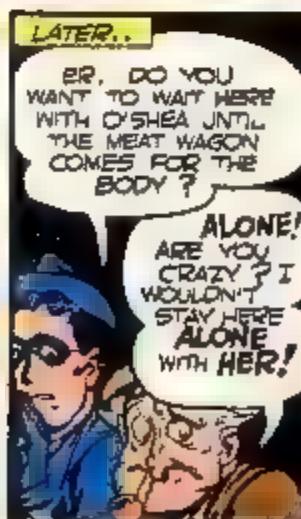












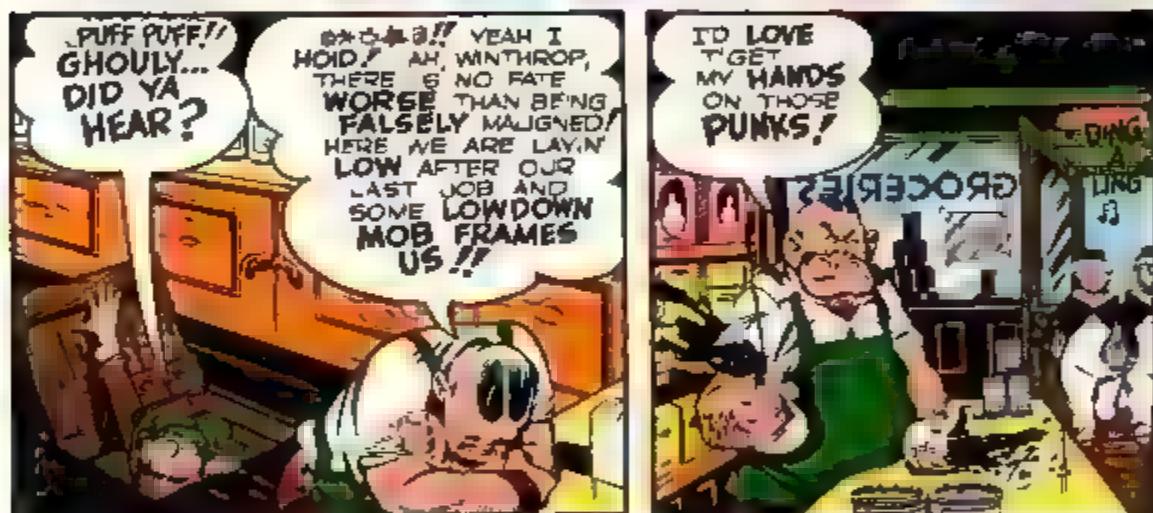


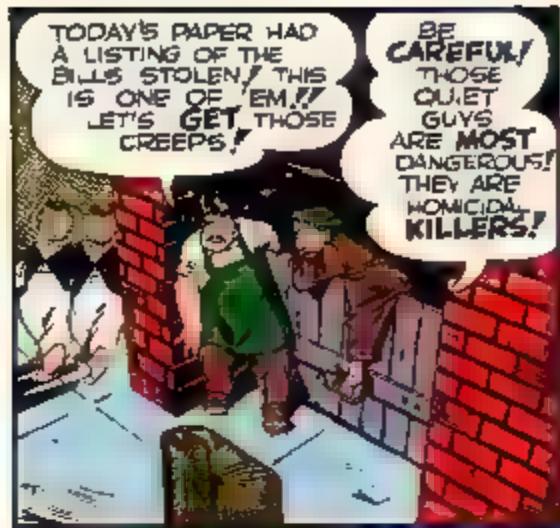
## LIZZY'S BOYS

October 15, 1950

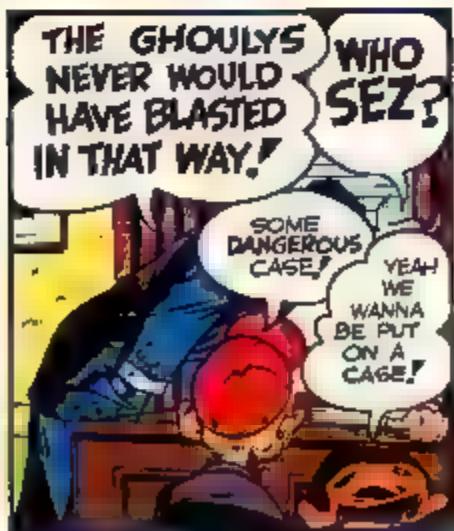
ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE

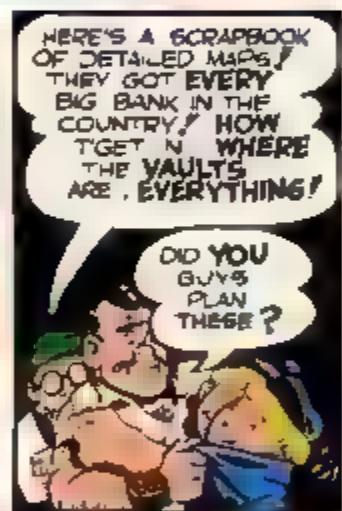


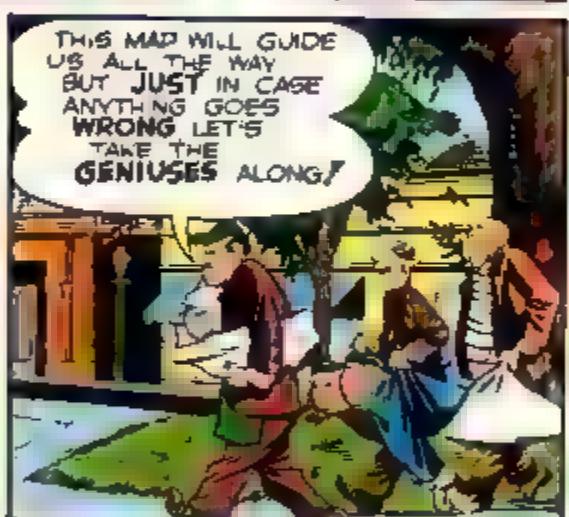
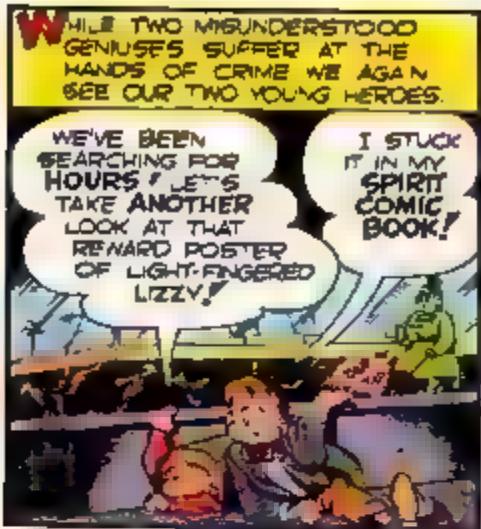


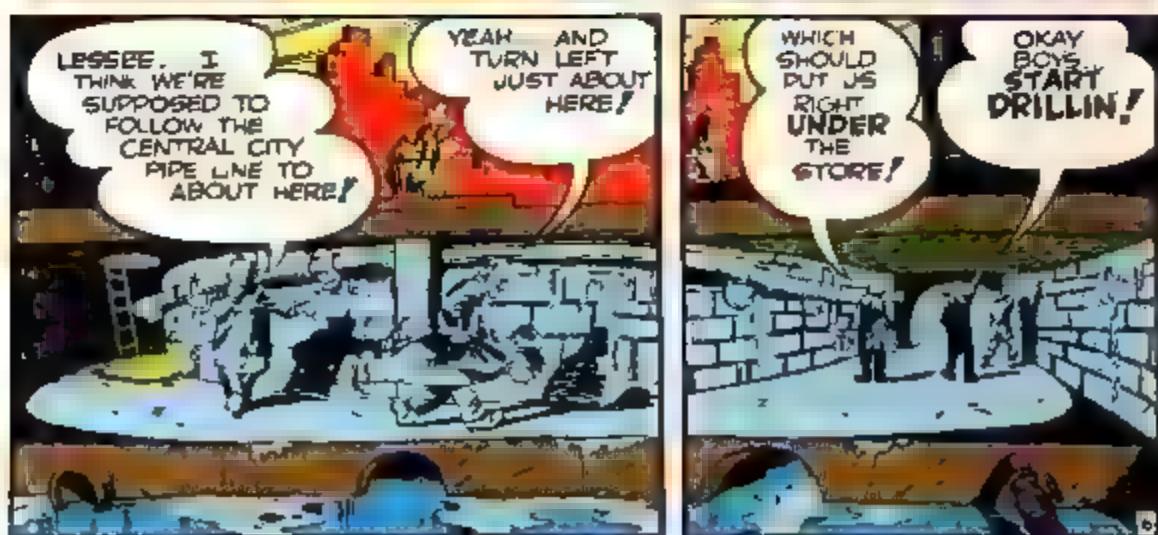


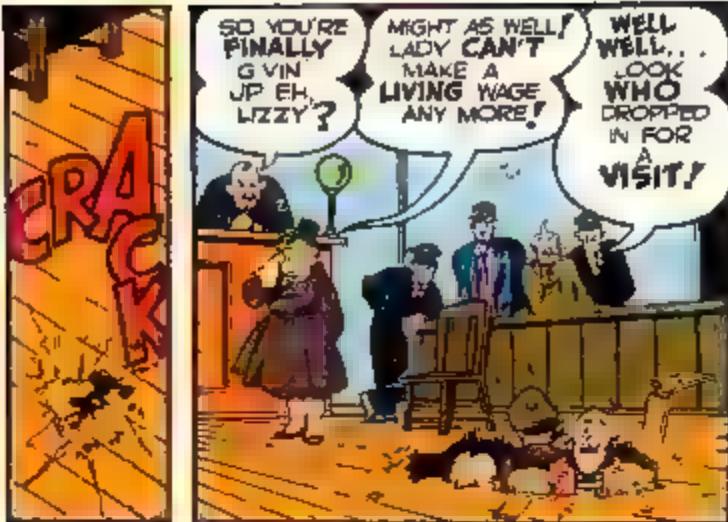
BE CAREFUL!  
THOSE QUIET GUYS ARE MOST DANGEROUS!  
THEY ARE HOMICIDAL KILLERS!







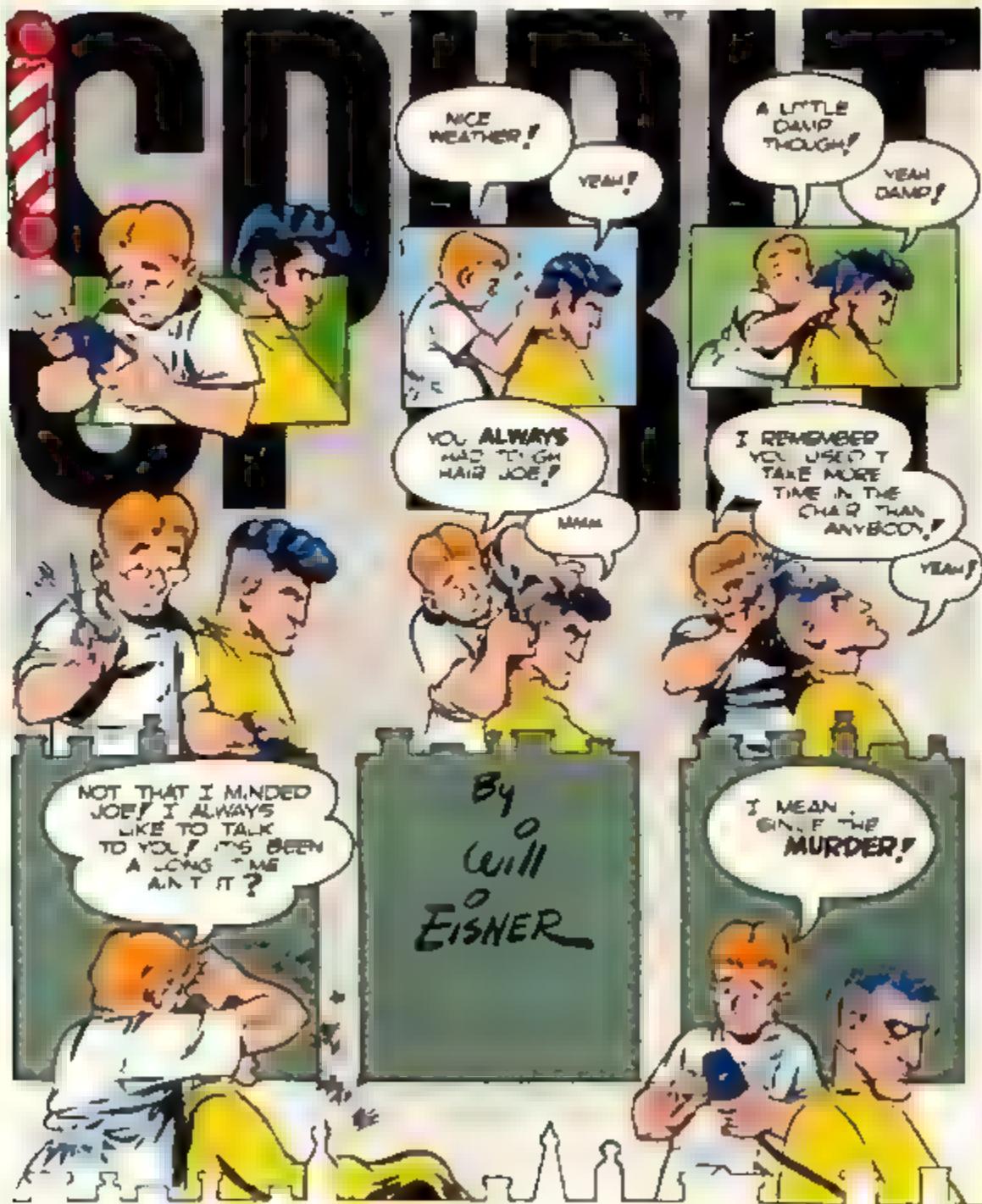




# THE HAIRCUT

October 22, 1950

ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE



FUNNY THING ABOUT  
THAT MURDER JOE  
IT CAME ON THE  
FIRST ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE OPENING  
OF MY BARBER  
SHOP!



THAT WAS QUITE A DAY .  
REMEMBER IT?

HOLD STILL,  
MISTER THAT'S  
IT! YOU AND  
YOUR WIFE!

RUDY'S  
BARBER  
SHOP

GRAN  
OPEN

U HEAR HIM JENNY? HE  
CALLED YOU MY WIFE? MAYBE  
IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS  
FROM NOW, WHEN I'M  
MAKING A LOT OF  
MONEY, MAYBE THEN  
YOU WILL BE!

RUDY,  
DEAREST!

YES SIR JOE! THE WORLD WAS  
MY OYSTER! MY OWN SHOP,  
MY GIRL. **EVERYTHING!**  
THEN **YOU** CAME BACK JOE!

JOE! I HAVEN'T  
SEEN YOU SINCE  
WE WERE KIDS!  
WHERE YA BEEN?

AWAY  
RUDY.  
YEH.  
AWAY!

TIMES HAVE CHANGED,  
AIN'T THEY? TIME  
WAS WHEN YOU AN'  
THE OTHER KIDS  
JSETA FOLLOW  
ME AROUND! I WAS  
HOT STUFF MUH?  
A **BIG WHEEL!**



HA HA I USED  
TICALL YOU "STUPE!"  
YOU WEREN'T TOO  
BRIGHT WHEN YOU  
WAS A KID! I USED  
TISWIPE EVERYTHING  
YOU OWNED!

THOSE WERE  
THE DAYS,  
Huh, JOE?  
MEET MY  
GIRL  
JENNY!

HEH HEH YOU  
AIN'T CHANGED  
A **BIT**, HAVE  
YOU, "STUPE"?

HA HA HA.  
WHAD YA  
MEAN,  
JOE?

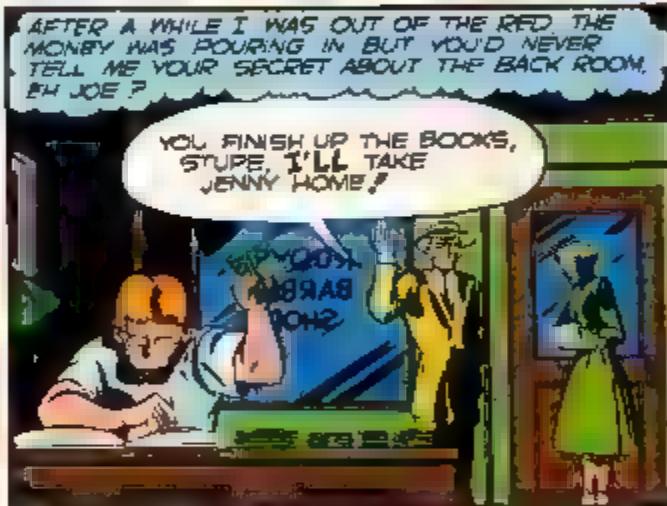
I GUESS I  
WASN'T  
TOO  
BRIGHT  
I CERTAINLY  
WASN'T  
MUCH OF  
A BUSINESS  
MAN.  
AFTER  
FOUR  
MONTHS,  
IT LOOKED  
LIKE I  
WAS  
READY  
FOR  
BANKRUPTCY.

SMART HANDLING IS WHAT  
YOU NEED STUPE!  
I'M TAKIN' OVER  
THIS JOINT FOR  
YOU!

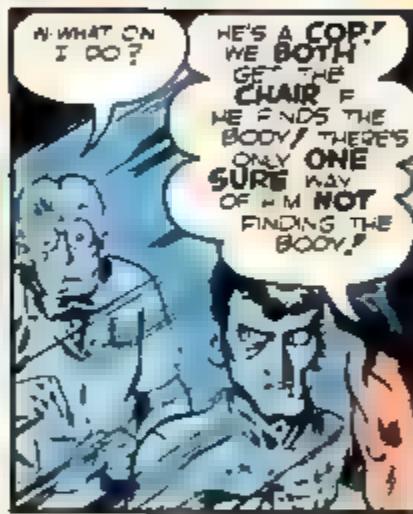
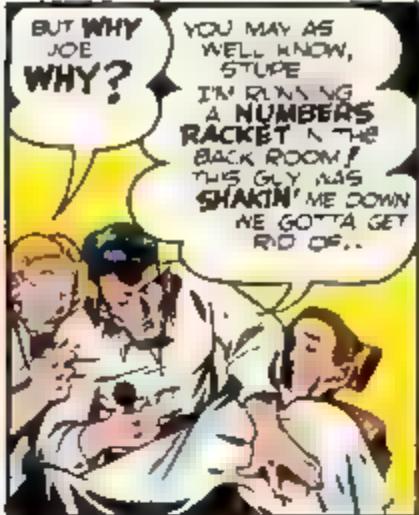
YOU  
ALWAYS  
WERE  
A  
PAL,  
JOE!

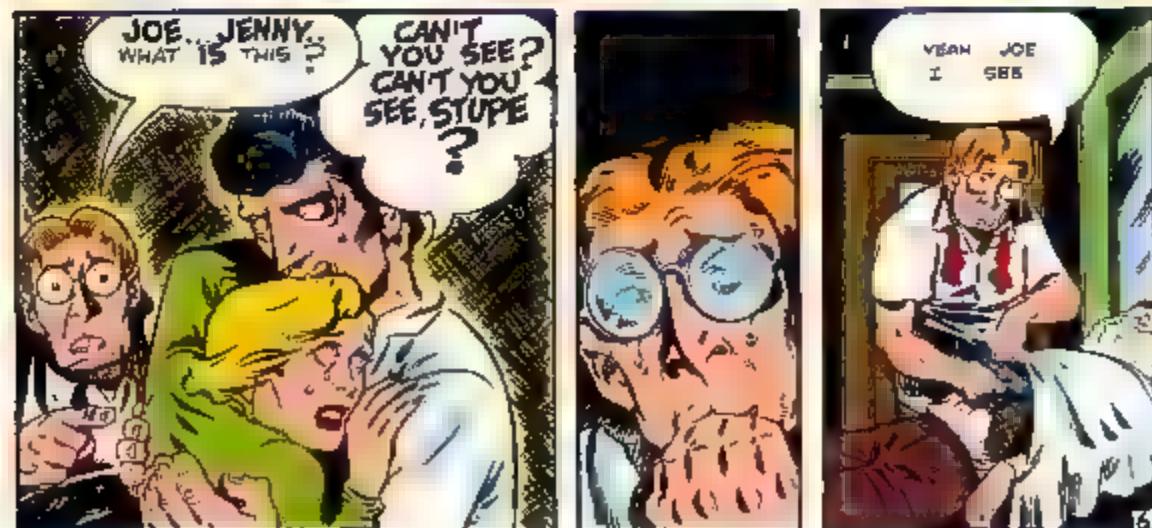
RUDY'S  
BARBER  
SHOP

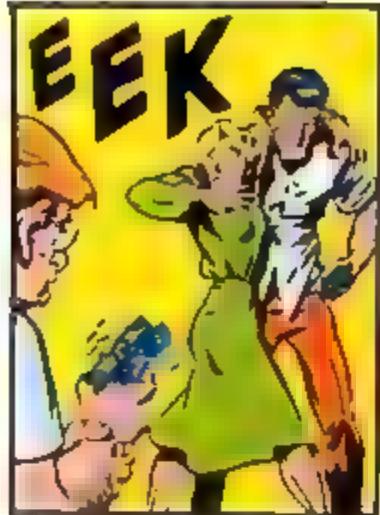














THE HALLOWEEN  
SPIRIT OF 1950

October 29 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



A

time of witchcraft and shenanigans....  
this year...however  
being an election year....  
there are many more pumpkins to cut  
in Central City.....

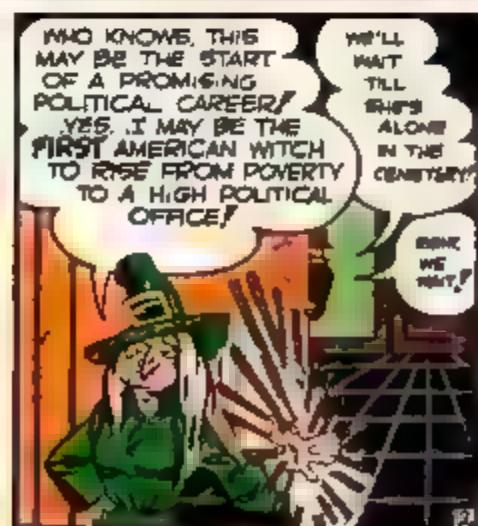
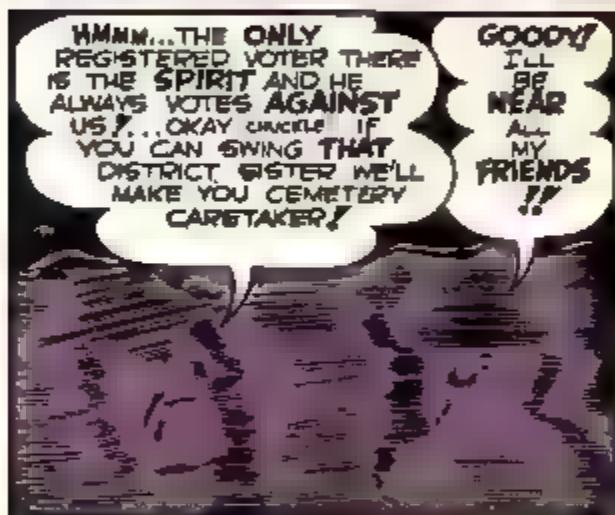
OKAY, SNODGRASS.  
YOU PULL THE  
14<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT  
INTO THE HEALY  
COLUMN AND YOU'LL  
BE AWARDED THE  
NEW HIGHWAY  
CONTRACT!

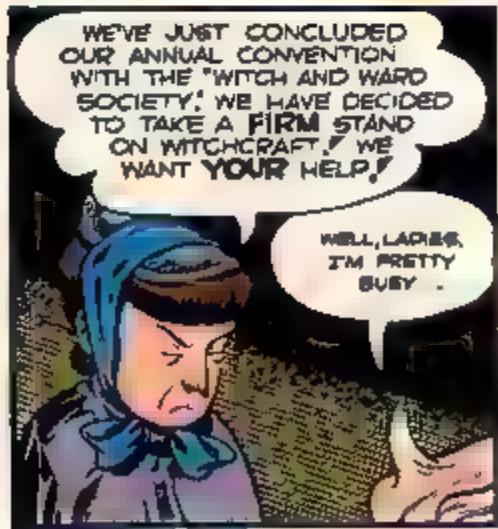
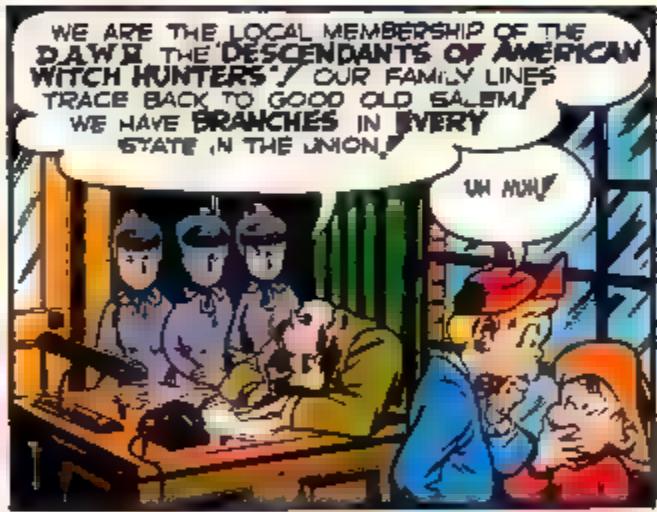
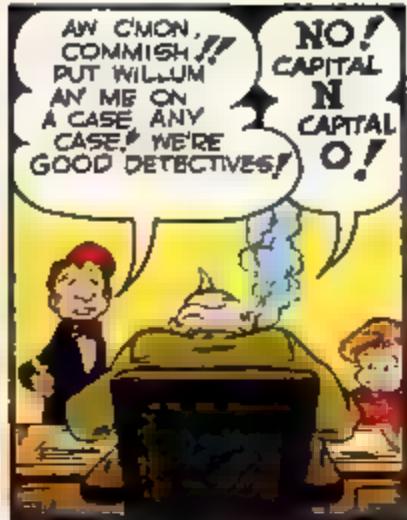
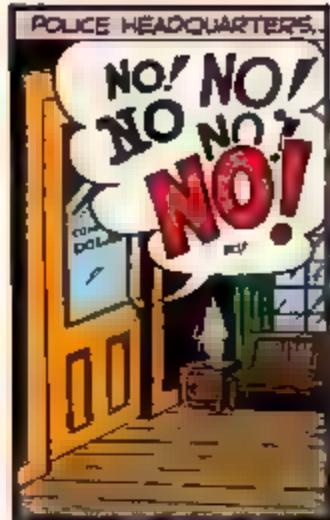
MCGREW, YOU  
GET US THE  
12<sup>TH</sup> A.D.  
AND WE'LL  
GET YOU  
THE BOARD  
OF EDUCATION!

B-DUH!  
NO  
KIDDIN'  
CHEE SURE  
YCN COUNT  
ONNA DUH.  
-- 12<sup>TH</sup>!!

NEXT  
!

I'LL BRING  
THE 6<sup>TH</sup> WARD  
INTO LINE...Y GOT  
ANY TAX  
COLLECTING  
JOBS OPEN?





TONIGHT IS HALLOWE'EN!  
ACCORDING TO TRADITION,  
AT MIDNIGHT THE GHOSTS,  
GHOULIES, GOBLINS AND  
WITCHES WILL ARISE FROM  
THEIR GRAVES. WE WANT  
TWO DETECTIVES WITH  
ARREST WARRANTS!

I GOT  
JUST THE MEN  
THEY'RE ALERT  
BRAVE OBSERVANT  
AND CHEERFUL!

WELL  
SO LONG  
DOLAN!

CRUSH  
THE  
WITCHES

ONWARD!

UNLUCKY GHOSTS  
UNLUCKY GHOSTS

MEANWHILE, MIDST THE SILENT  
TOMBS OF WILDWOOD CEMETERY.

TUM TUM TUM! NOTHING  
LIKE AN ELECTION CAMPAIGN  
TO STIR THE AIR!  
LET'S SEE... NOW I  
START CANVASSING!!

HAAH! HEZEKIAL  
GRUMPF! I'M  
SURE HE WOULD  
HAVE VOTED FOR  
WARD HEALY.  
I'LL PUT HIM  
DOWN!

SILAS PURPLE  
EMMA HOTCHKIES.  
HMPH. NOTHING AT  
ALL TO THIS VOTE-  
GETTING BUSINESS!

IT'S  
HAZEL!

YOU'RE  
A WITCH,  
AREN'T  
YOU?  
DON'T  
DENY  
IT!

WHAT'S TO  
DENY?  
I'M 14<sup>TH</sup>  
GENERATION  
AS A  
MATTER OF  
FACT.  
HAVE YOU  
SEEN SOME  
OF MY  
PRESS  
CLIPPINGS?

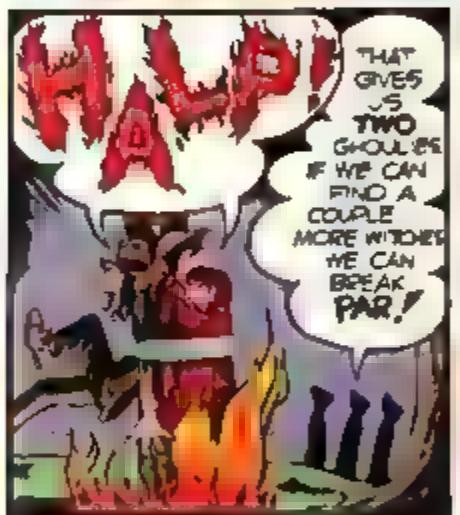
AHA! SEE  
HOW BRAZENLY  
SHE ADMITS  
IT?

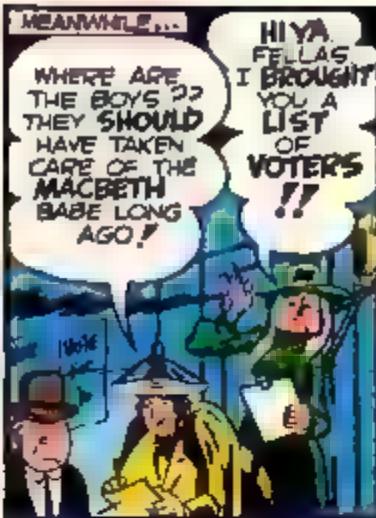
DO YOU  
HAVE  
THE  
STAKE,  
ISTER?

THEN  
LET'S  
ROAST  
HER!

I  
DO!







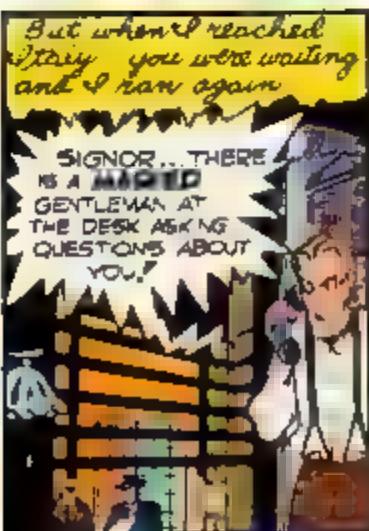
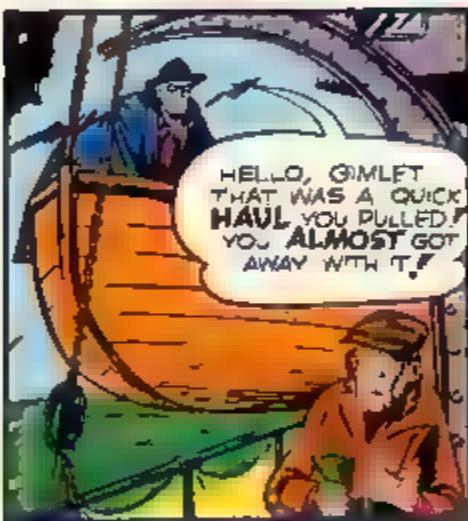
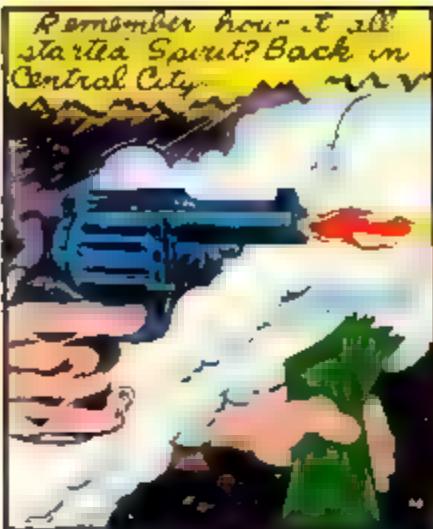


VIETNAM '50

November 5, 1950

ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE





Never had I seen such a  
dreadful guy. That gave me the  
idea for all these letters



Yeah I was having a great time except  
for me & Gertie Truong. Most of the  
legionnaires in my platoon were teenagers

AFTER ALL HERR GIMMEL  
WAR IS A GAME WE ARE  
USED TO P.F. D.R.  
LAST WAR ENDED MY  
COMRADES AND I  
HAD TO FIND OTHERS!

YOU HAVE  
T SOUND  
REAL  
SIMPLY  
SCHNADT!



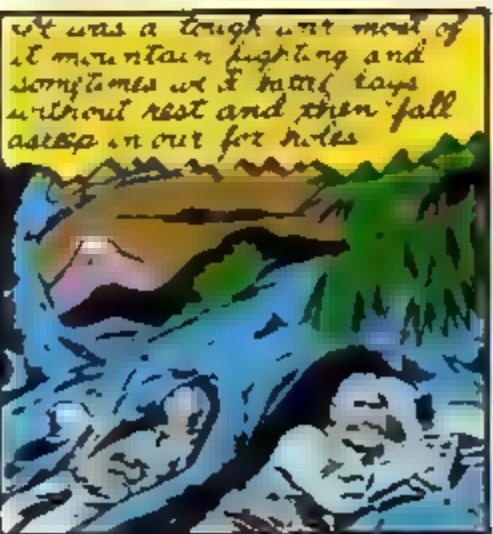
I kept writing these letters to  
you with paper back open after  
we got shaved and I was  
always rubbing it on



There was a lot of trouble in  
Vietnam. China the guerrillas were  
attacking the French and the army  
of Emperor Ngo Dinh

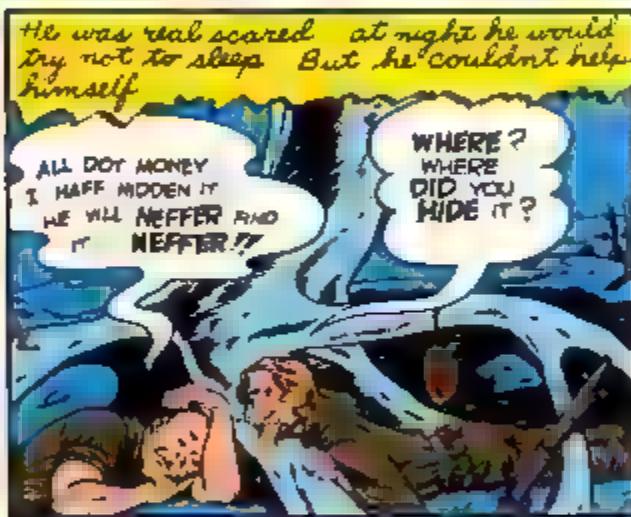
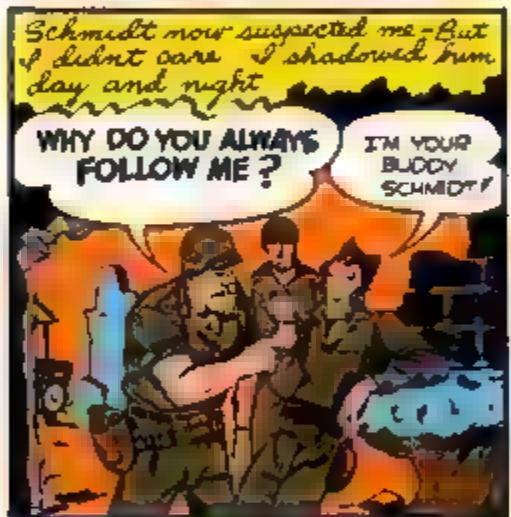


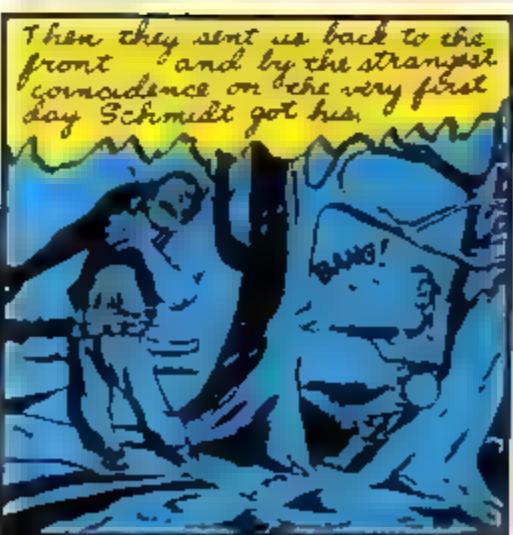
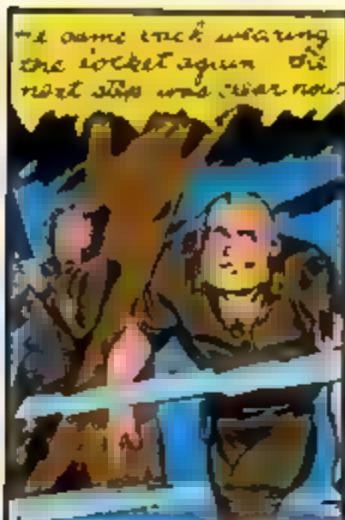
It was a tough unit most of  
it mountain fighting and  
sometimes we had days  
without rest and then fall  
asleep in our fox holes

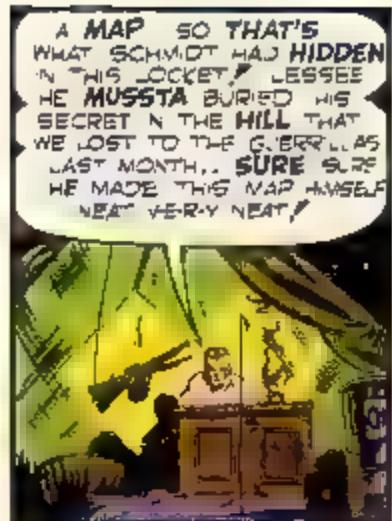


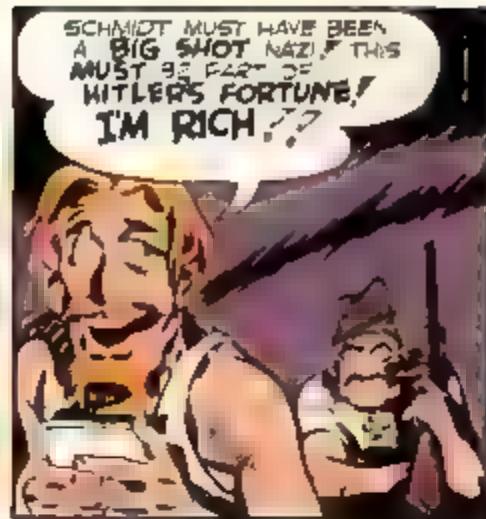
And that's just where we were when  
weard Schmidl taking on his sicko.











Four days later on Sept. 12, French forces, after a hard-fought battle, regained the hill... The bodies of two legionnaires, dead for several days, were found among the casualties... Strown near one body were shreds of paper, obviously torn to bits by machine gun bullets....

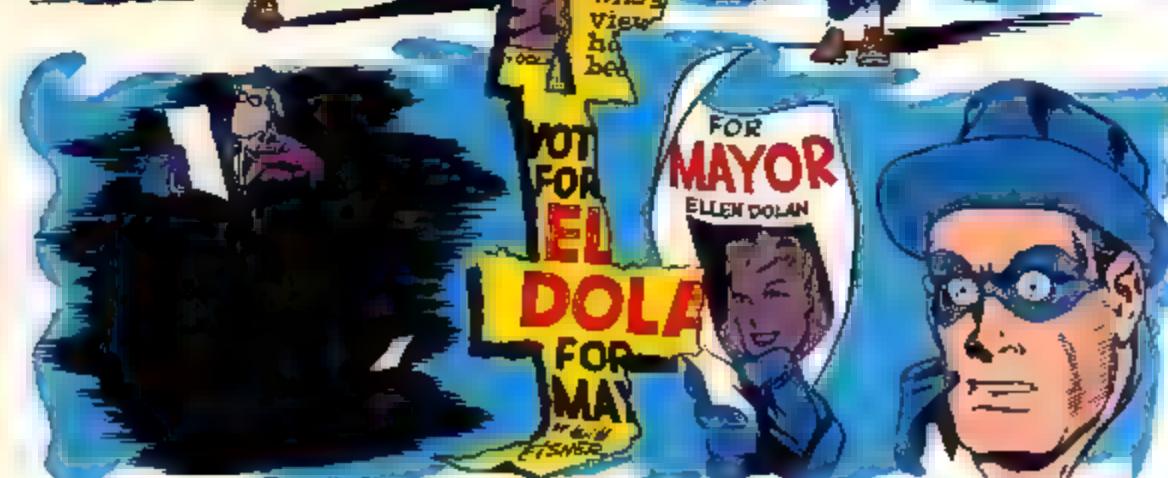


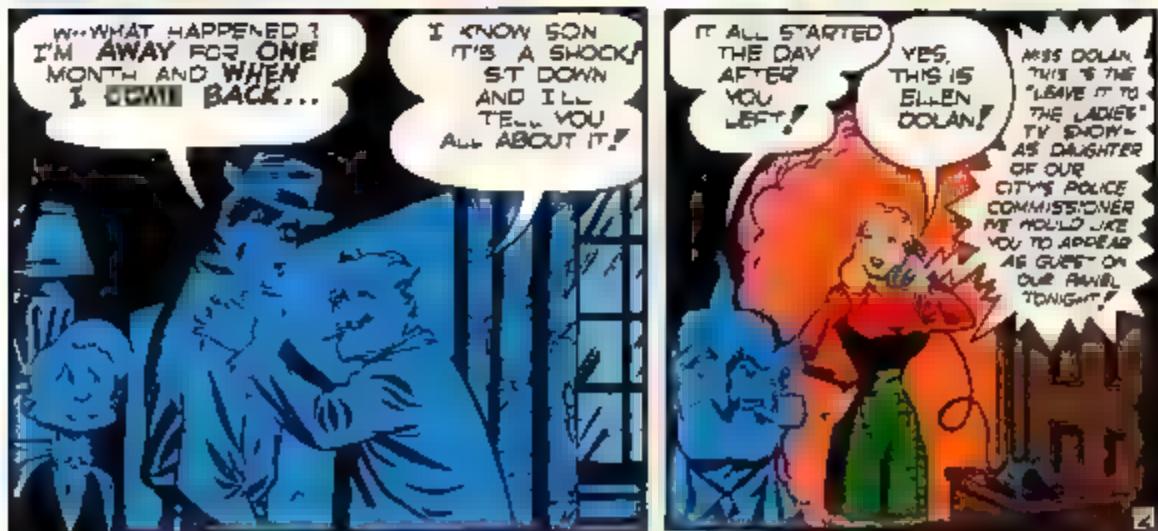


# ELLEN DOLAN FOR MAYOR

November 12, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE





**THAT NIGHT**

MISS DOLAN DO YOU THINK THAT MEN ARE PRACTICING TOLERANCE IN THE STRUGGLE OF WOMEN FOR EQUALITY IN MEN'S AFFAIRS?

MOST MEN PRACTICE EQUALITY LIKE A LITTLE BOY PRACTICING ON THE PIANO, ONE HOUR A DAY AND THEN FORGET ALL ABOUT IT.

**THAT DID IT!** ELLEN WAS A HIT! THAT WEEK SHE APPEARED ON 14 TELEVISION SHOWS THERE WAS A SPONTANEITY AND FRESHNESS THAT SHE TRANSMITTED INTO THE HOMES OF VIEWERS...



BY THE END OF THE WEEK EIGHT SPONSORS WERE BEGGING TO PUT HER ON THE AIR

THE ELLEN DOLAN LADIES HOME HOUR BROUGHT TO YOU BY LADY LUCY'S FACIAL CREAM!

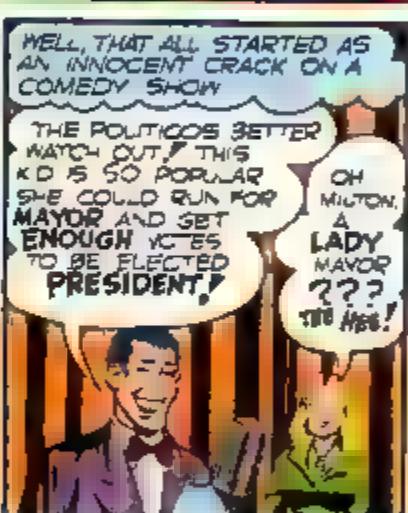
THE WOMEN LOVED HER THE MEN ADORED HER!

BUT THE MAYORALTY CAMPAIGN? WHAT ABOUT THAT?

WELL, THAT ALL STARTED AS AN INNOCENT CRACK ON A COMEDY SHOW

THE POLITICOS BETTER WATCH OUT! THIS KID IS SO POPULAR SHE COULD RUN FOR MAYOR AND GET ENOUGH VOTES TO BE ELECTED PRESIDENT!

OH MILTON, A LADY MAYOR ??? TOO HOT!



IT WAS JUST A CRACK BUT OH DID IT START LOGROLLING. THE NEXT MORNING THOUSANDS OF LETTERS WERE POURING INTO LOCAL NEWSPAPERS...

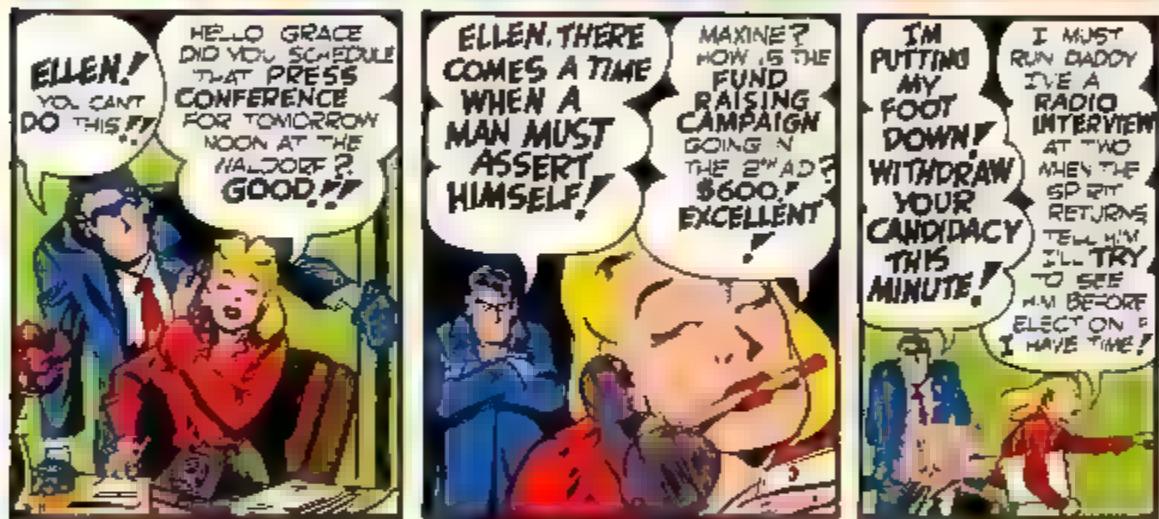
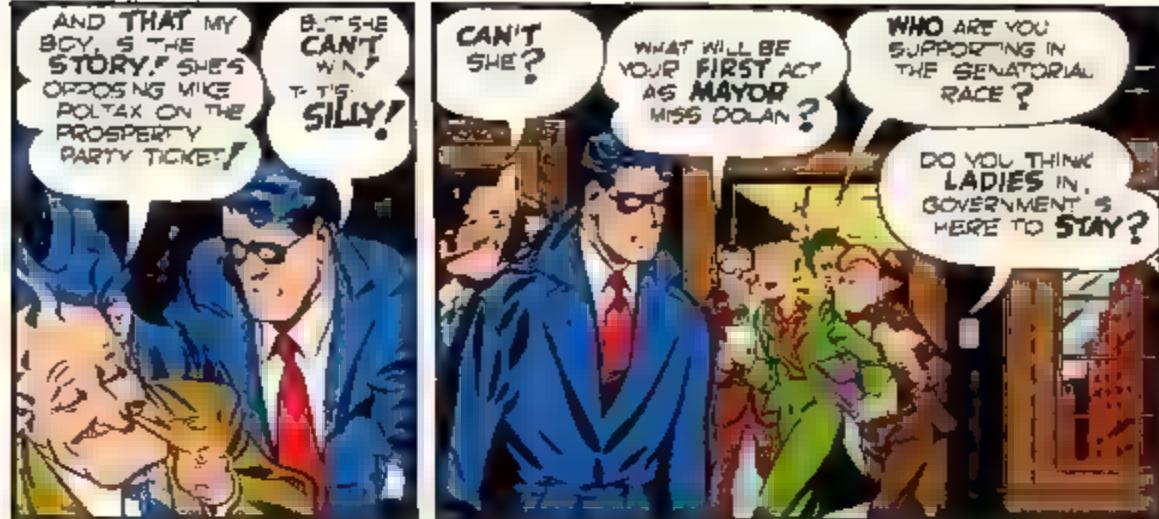


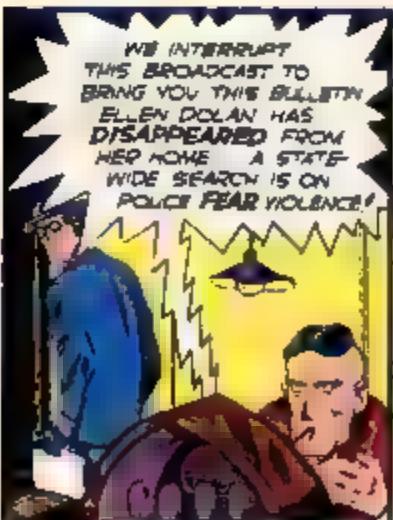
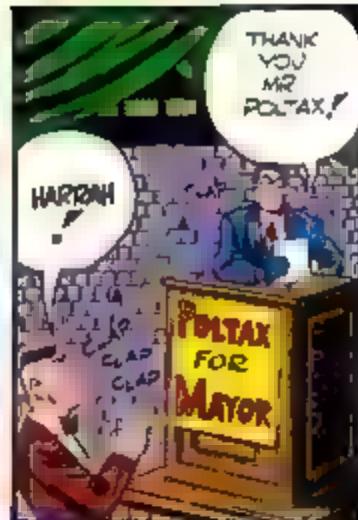
MISS DOLAN WE REPRESENT THE "LADIES LEAGUE" OF CENTRAL CITY. WE WOULD LIKE A WORD WITH YOU!

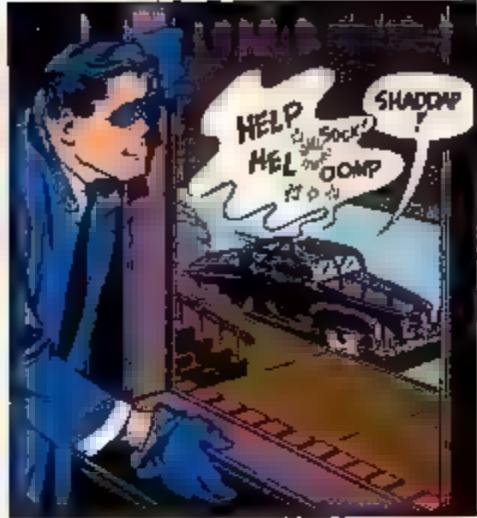


AT FIVE O'CLOCK THE NEXT DAY A PETITION WITH 25 000 SIGNATURES DEMANDING ELLEN'S NAME BE PLACED ON THE MAYORALTY BALLOT WAS PRESENTED BEFORE THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS.













## LA CUCARACHA

November 19, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

THE



We do not expect you to believe this story....

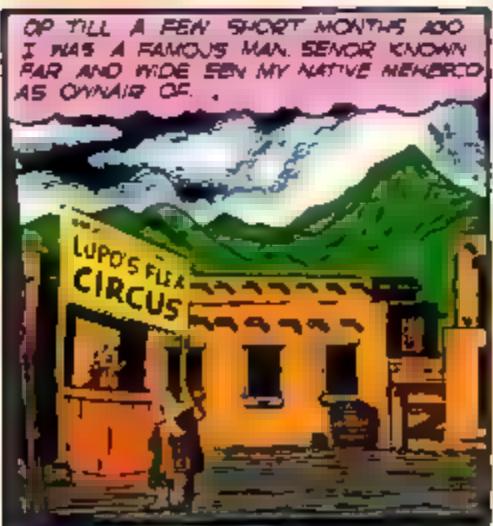
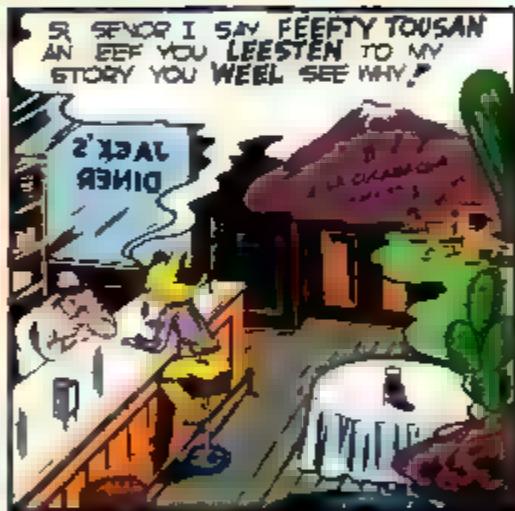
You will undoubtedly scoff and mutter something about comic strips going too far this time....

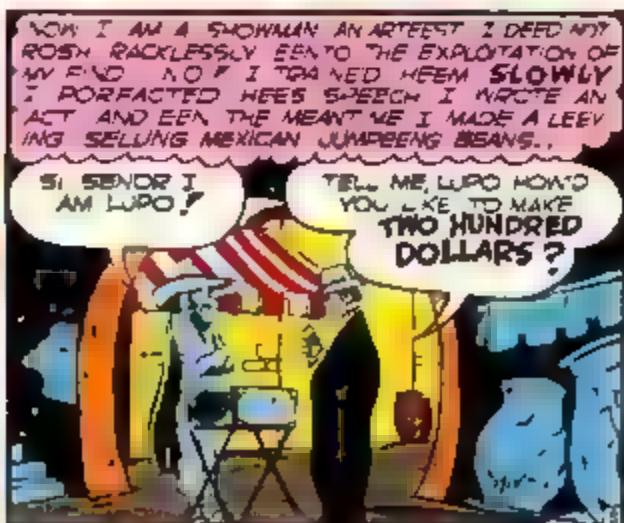
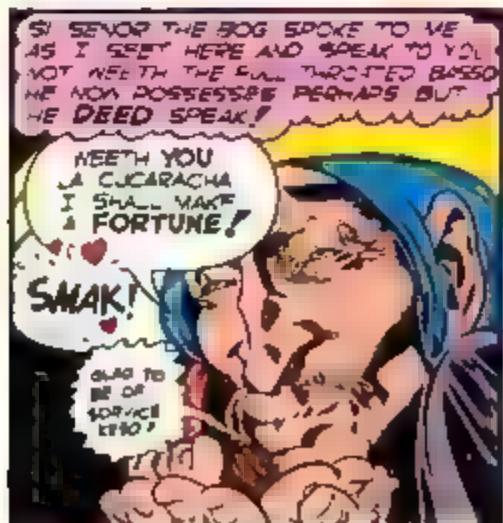
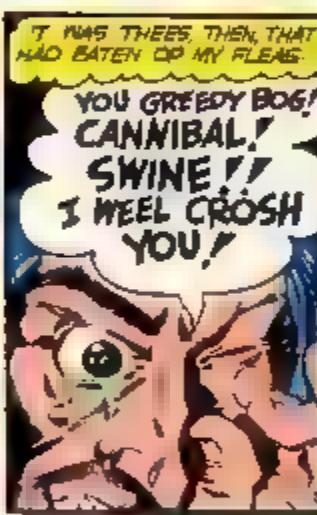
But we feel this is worthy of a hearing and in all humility, we can only say....

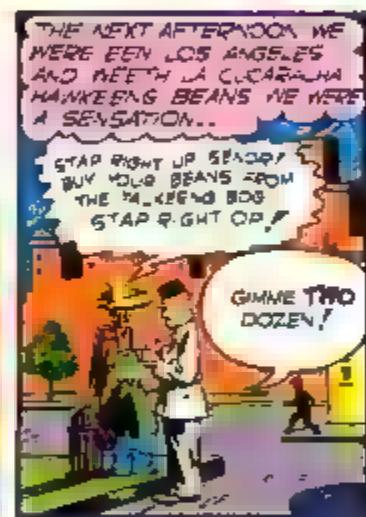
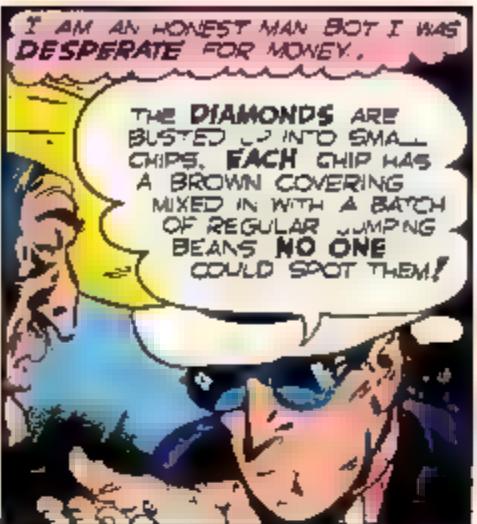
This is the way  
... We heard it...

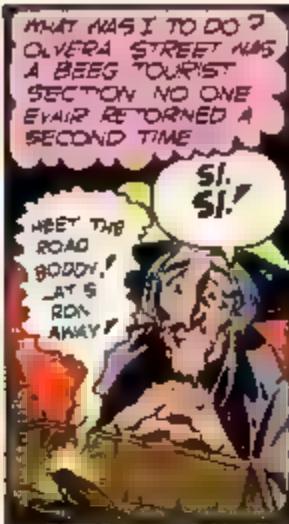


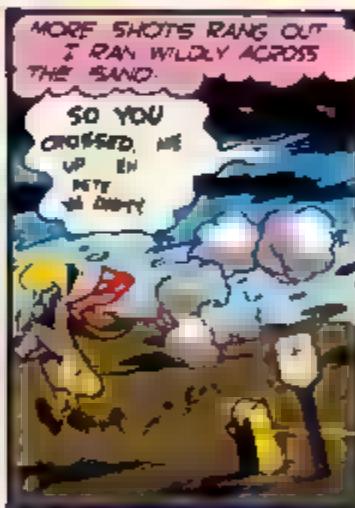
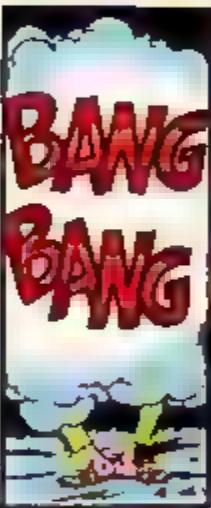
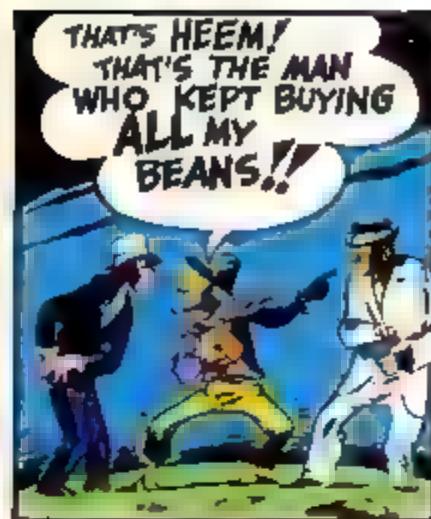
by WILL EISNER















## THE SONG OF LITTLE WILLUM

November 26, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



# the song of **Little Willum**

a thanksgiving offering  
in verse.

a **SPIRIT**

presentation  
to be read aloud with  
conviction.

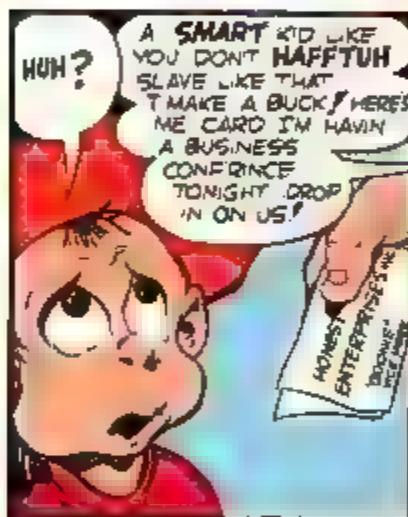


BY *Will Eisner*

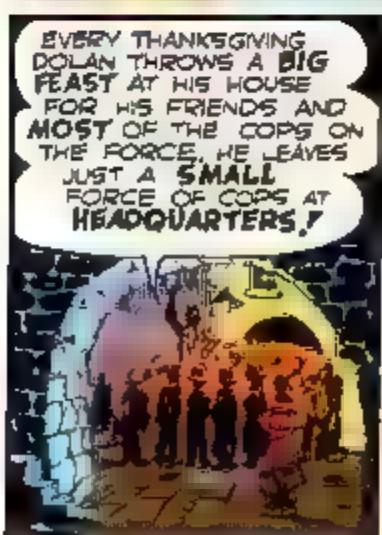
**B**y the shores of Central  
City  
**B**y the shining city  
lights  
**S**tood the shack of  
Little Willum  
**H**omeless, hapless, waif,  
oh, Willum...



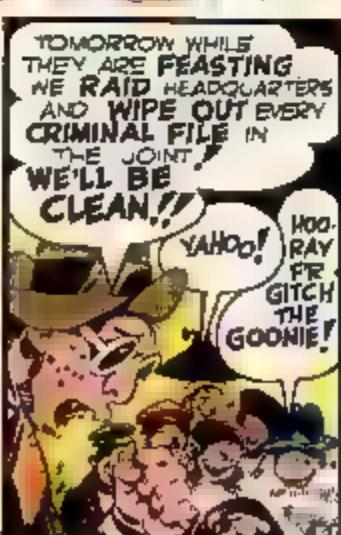
Lived he in the slums  
despondent  
Midst the garbage and  
the junkheap  
Midst the alley cat and  
vermin  
Shining shoes to  
earn a living....



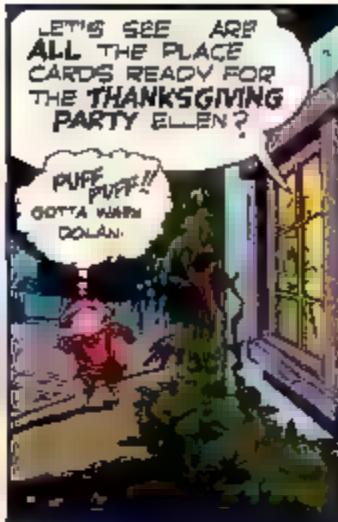
Gitch the goonie, mighty hoodlum  
Called a meeting of the thugmen  
Of the gangsters, of the bankmen  
Of the pugs to plan a caper



All the hoodlums drawn together  
Gyp the grifter from the southside  
Lip the blaster from the northside  
Mike the mangler from the eastside  
Listened closely ever closely  
To the scheme of Gitch the goonie....



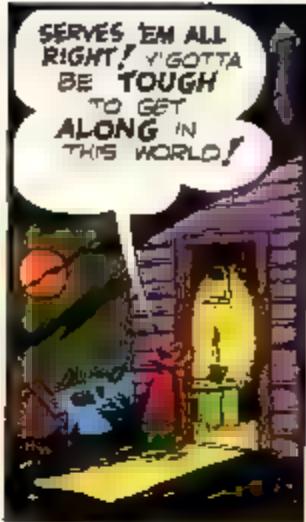
**Meanwhile...oh yes,  
meanwhile**  
**What's a comic with-  
out [meanwhile]?**  
**Helpless are we minus  
[meanwhile]....**  
**So for us to use our  
[meanwhile]**  
**We must switch the  
scene to Dolan's**



Away ran little Wilum  
Away with his heart  
breaking  
Shaking deep with  
indignation...  
Shaking deep with  
heartfelt sorrow.



The hoodlums then departed....  
Gyp the grifter from the southside  
Lip the blaster from the northside  
Mike the mangler from the eastside  
Leaving lonely little Willum....



Next day] came the Thanksgiving  
Next day] please note oh reader  
Is much the same as [meanwhile]  
Which is quite a bit like [later]  
All of which for comic reading  
Is essential to our story....



Left the gangsters Gitch  
 the goonie  
 Left Gyp the grifter from  
 the northside  
 Or did we say the  
 eastside  
 Or might it be the  
 westside  
 It's surely not the  
 inside...  
 Left Gitch in search  
 of Willum...



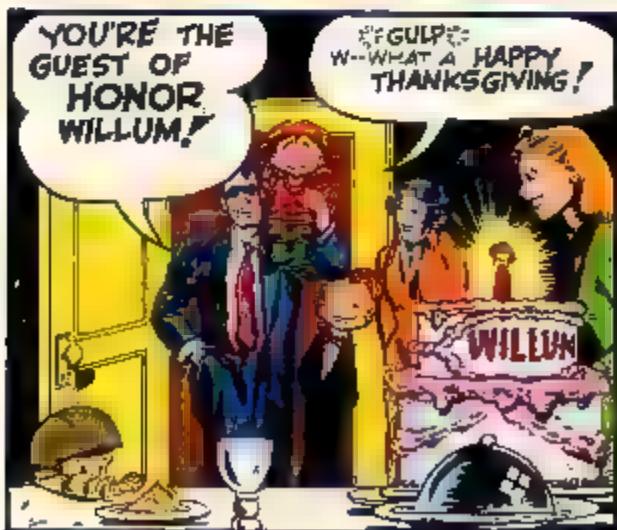
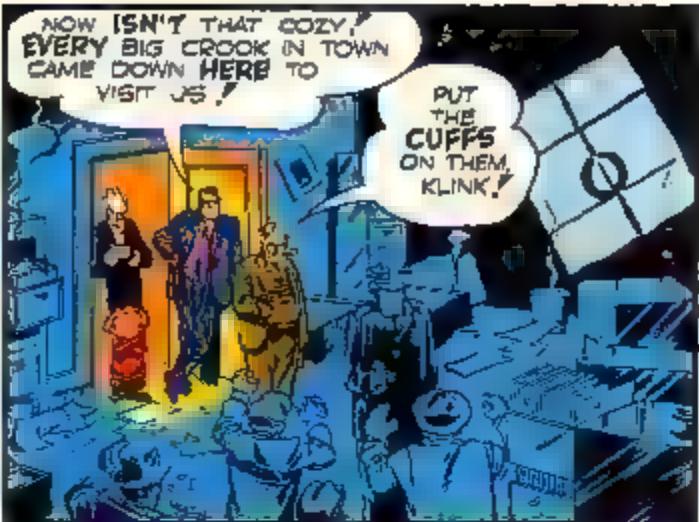
At Dolan's was the party  
 The big Thanksgiving feasting  
 Came the Spirit, Sammy, Satin,  
 Came Pgell Sand Saref, Hildie,  
 With Darling O'shea and P.S.  
 In his mouth a peppermint stick  
 Came Dick Whittler and Witch Hazel  
 Came all of them but Willum  
 Standing, watching still, ever  
 watching..  
 Standing, watching in the shadows.



Midst the laughter  
of the party  
Midst the talking,  
shouting tumult  
Stood the Spirit  
listening stiffly  
For the coming cries  
of anguish  
For the screams of  
little Willum...



Off they went, the mighty  
warriors  
Chins still dripping from  
the gravy  
Off they went just like  
the Pilgrims  
Or the Indians in days  
gone by  
To do battle with the  
outlaws.



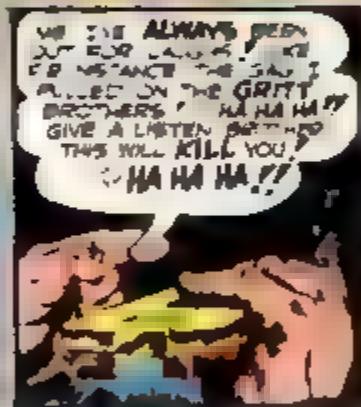
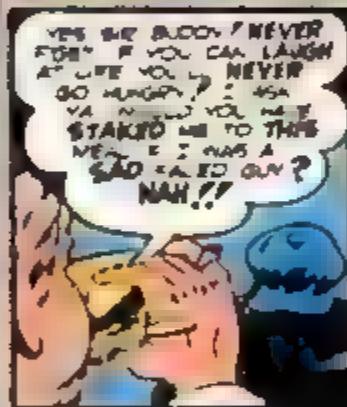
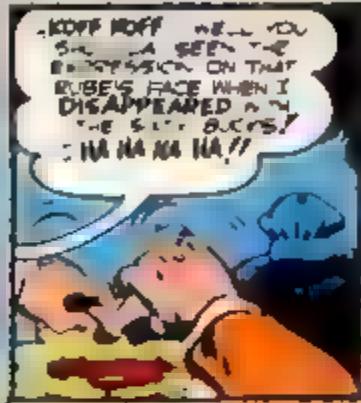
By the shores of Central City  
By the shining city night  
lights,  
Sleeps a tot, all stuffed with  
sweetmeats  
And he dreams a dream  
contented  
Dreams of cranberry sauce  
and pumpkin  
Dreams of all of those that  
love him  
And his name is little Willum.

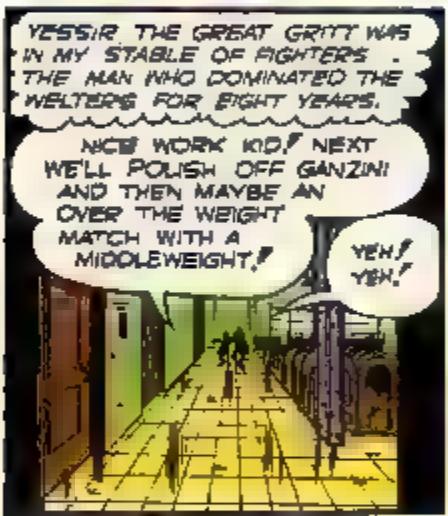
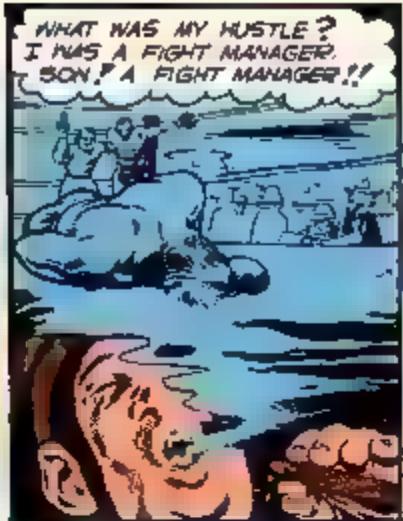


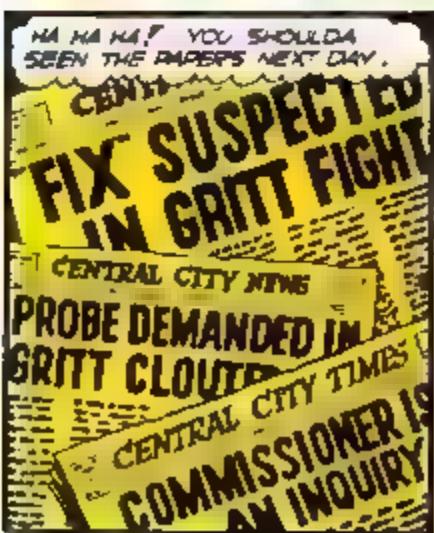
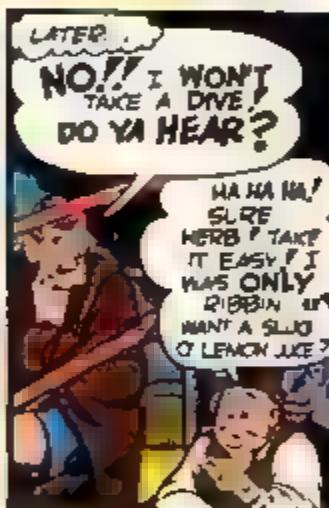
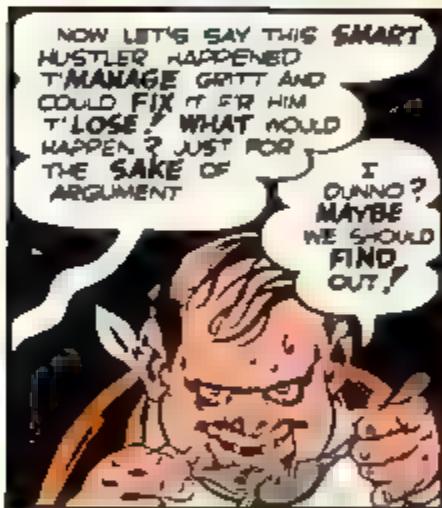
## THE WINNAT

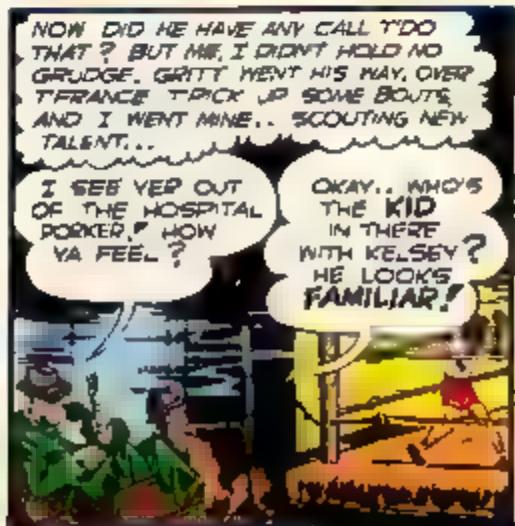
December 3, 1950

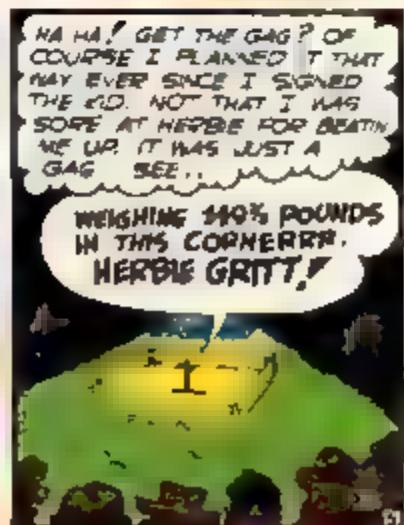
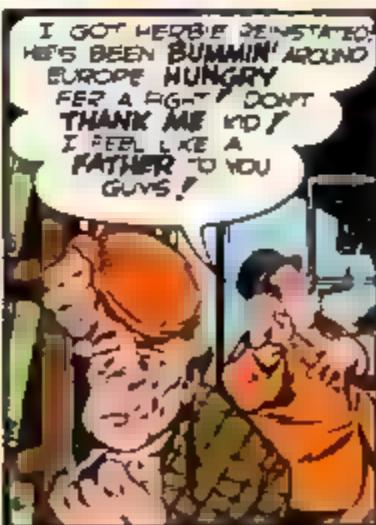
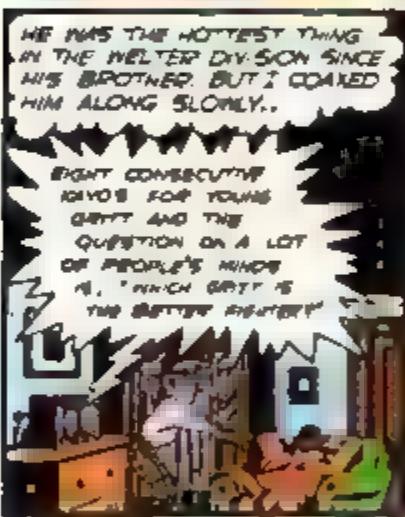
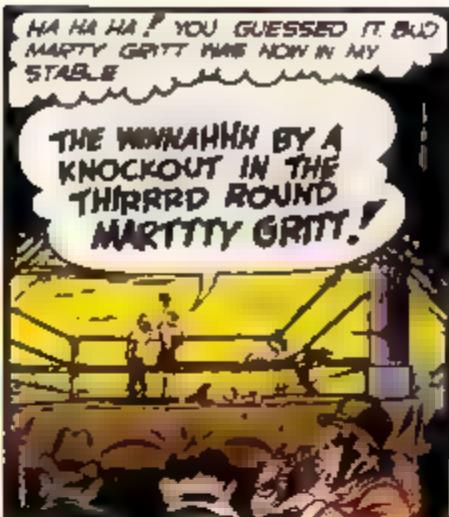
ACTION  
MYSTERY  
ADVENTURE

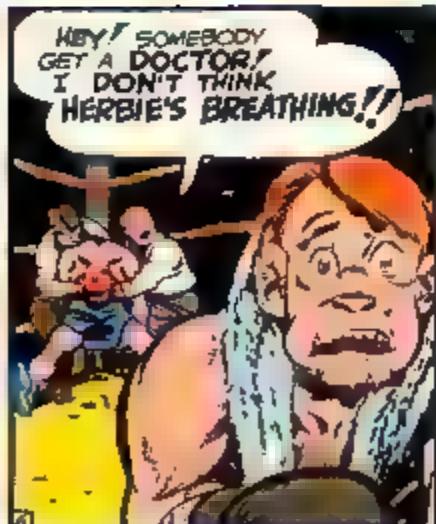
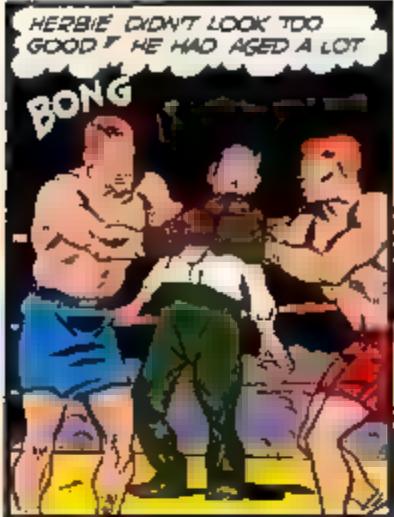














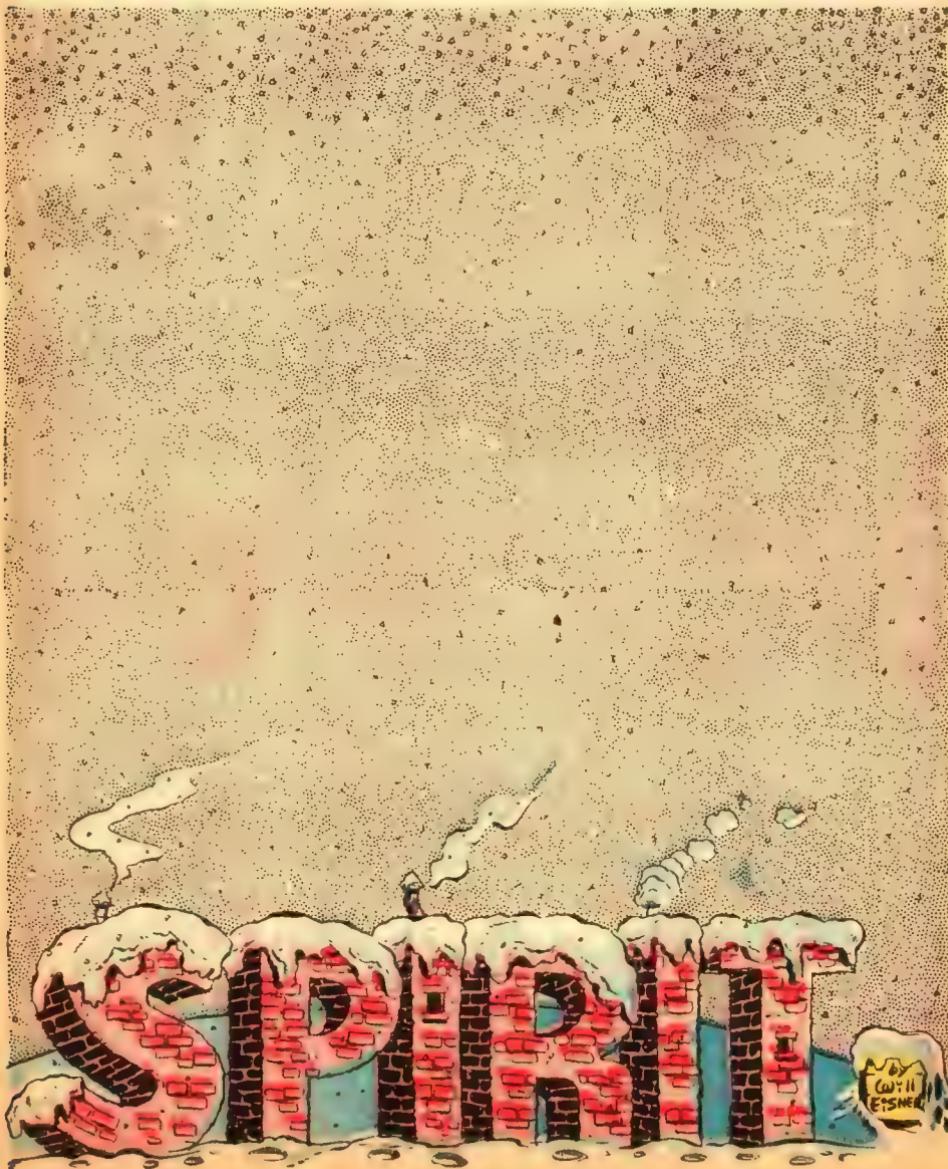


# THE STAR LEDGER

NEWARK, N.J.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE





THE MOUNTAIN RETREAT  
OF DARLING O'SHEA...  
TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY  
MILES AWAY FROM THE  
CITY. ALL THE WAY UP ON  
COUNTOUR POINT...

SPIRIT, YOU'VE  
COME!

HI,  
SPROUT!

OH, GOODY! AND  
HAVE I A SURPRISE  
FOR YOU. I'VE PICKED  
OUT JUST THE RIGHT  
GIRL FOR YOU. MY  
NEW GOVERNESS  
AND...

AHEM...

YOU'LL SIMPLY ADORE  
HER, AND SINCE I'M  
TOO YOUNG FOR  
YOU, WHY I THOUGHT  
I'D PICK OUT THE  
RIGHT GIRL FOR  
YOU TO MARRY  
AND EMMPHH ???

O'SHEA  
!!



WELL, WELL... SO YOU'RE THE WIFE DARLING O'SHEA HAS PICKED OUT FOR ME! WHAT ARE YOU DOING AS A GOVERNESS, ANYHOW?

STILL THE SUSPICIOUS COP, AREN'T YOU, SHERLOCK? COME ON INSIDE... DINNAH IS SERVED!



LATER...

...SO I SAID. BOWSER, NEXT TIME YOU CAN BE POLICE COMMISSIONER AND I'LL BE DOG CATCHER!



YES IT IS LATE! YOU MUST BE VERY

TIRIED AFTER THE LONG TRIP UP HERE, ELLEN. WHY DON'T YOU GO TO SLEEP?

HA HA HA!

YES, I THINK I SHALL.









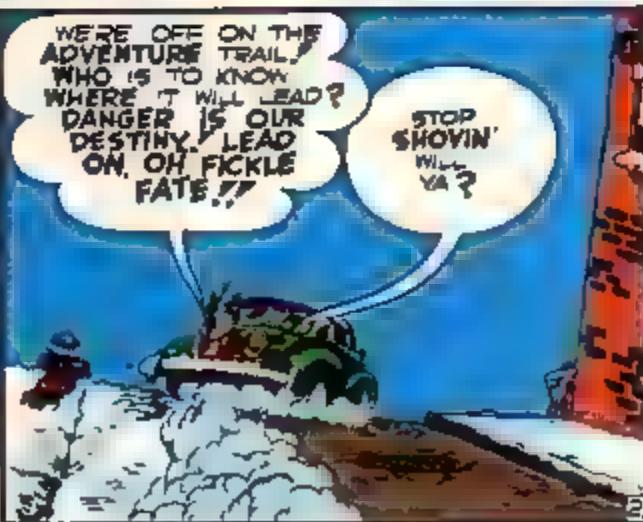
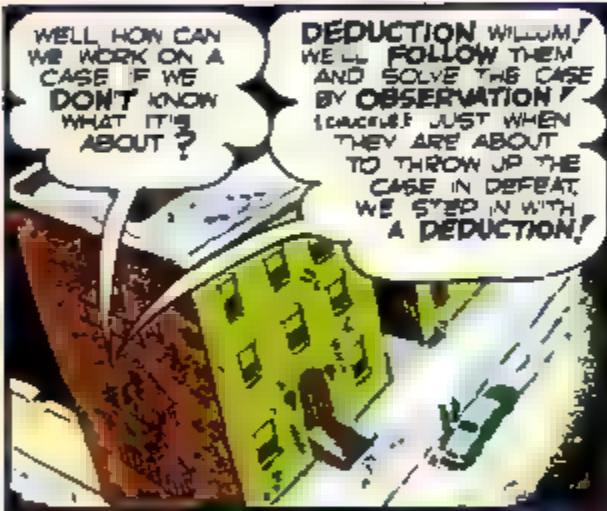


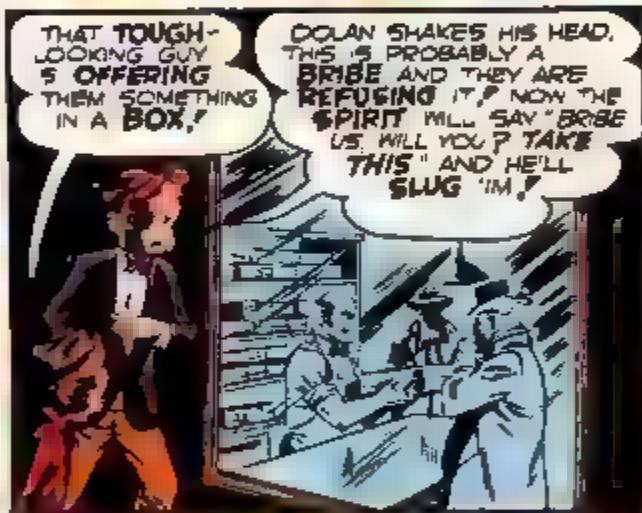
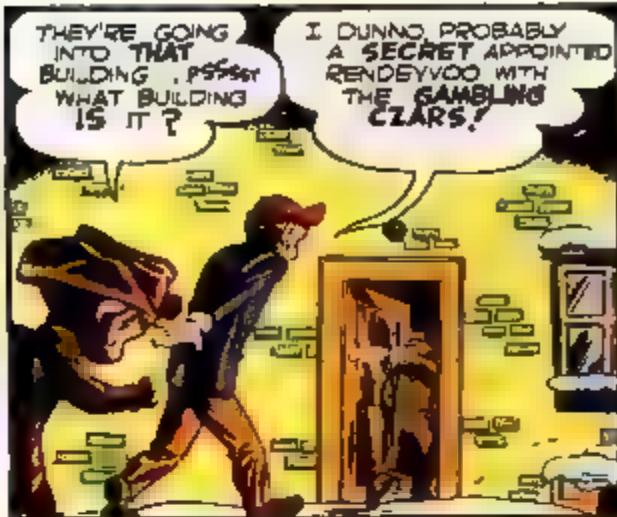
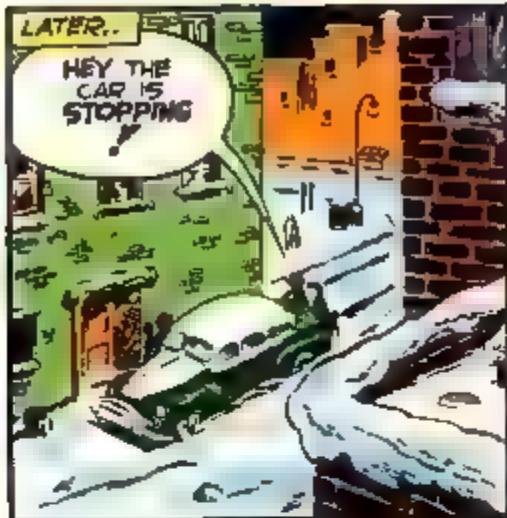
## SAMMY AND WILLUM TAKE OVER

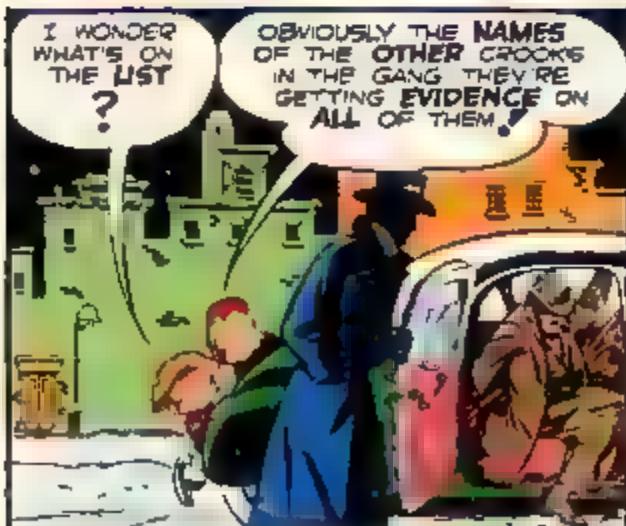
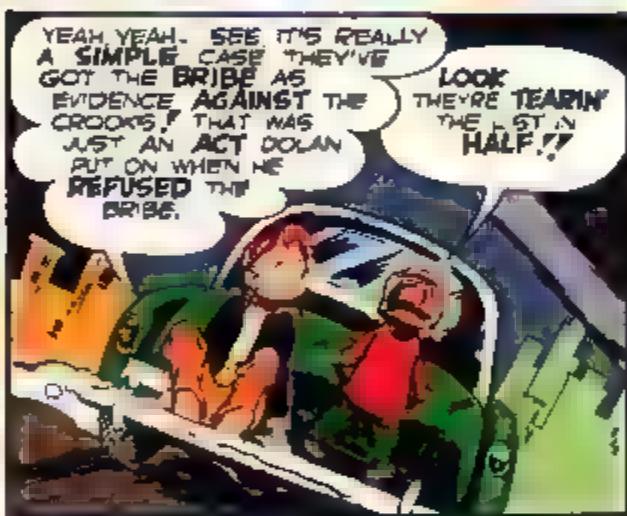
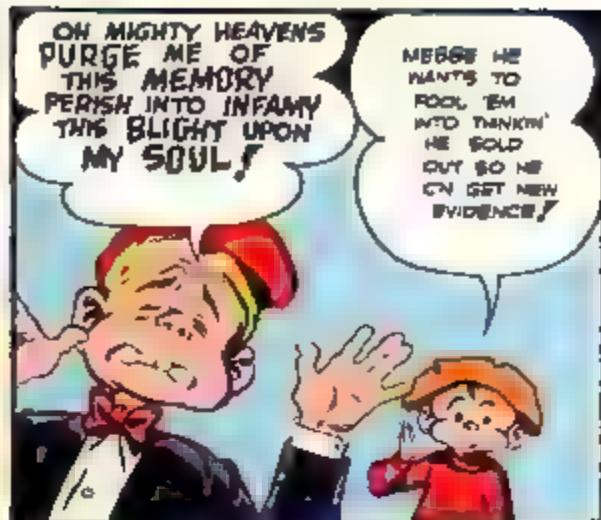
December 17, 1950

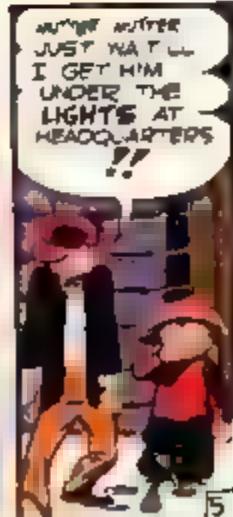
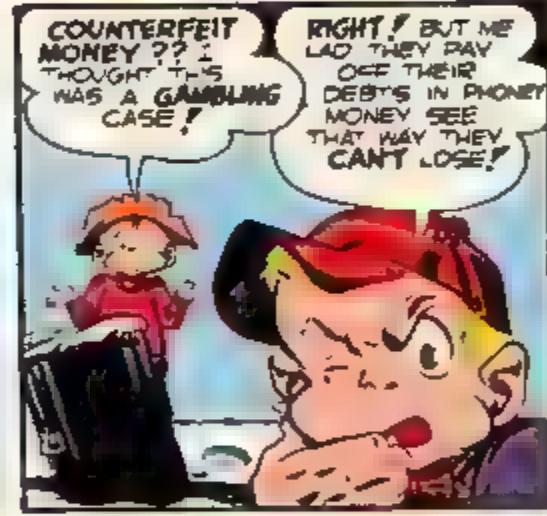
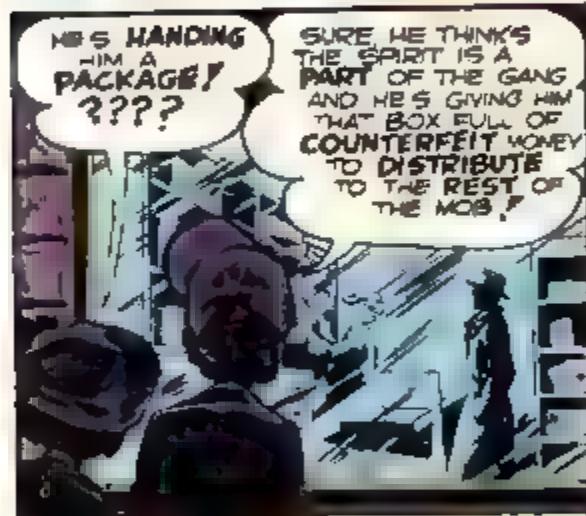
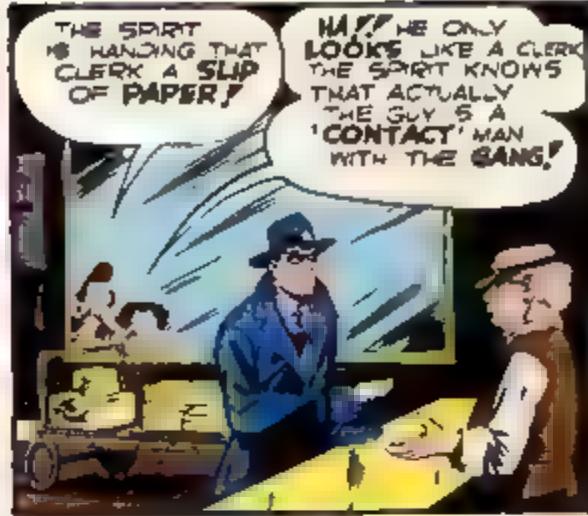
ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

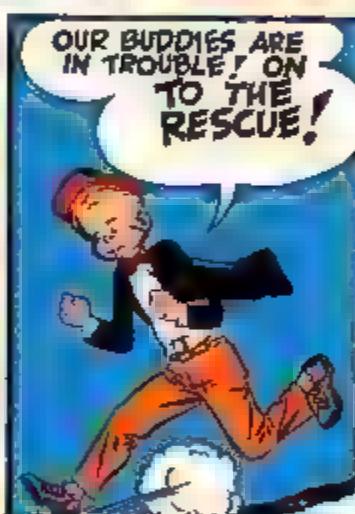
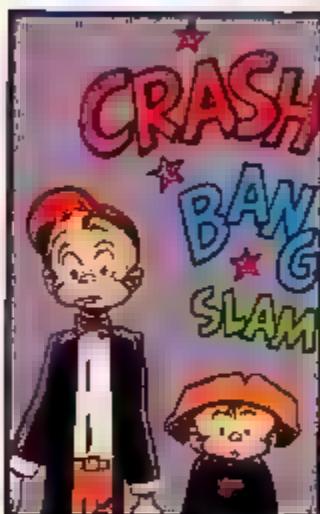
















THE CHRISTMAS  
SPIRIT OF 1950

December 24, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE



# The CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

O nce upon a time in a damp cold city where the snow was always on the ground, there stood a big house that was always heavily guarded.

E

or in this very house, there lived the richest little girl in the world....

Will E. GINGER

UNIVERSITY

**S**he was a mean little girl and nobody really liked her....



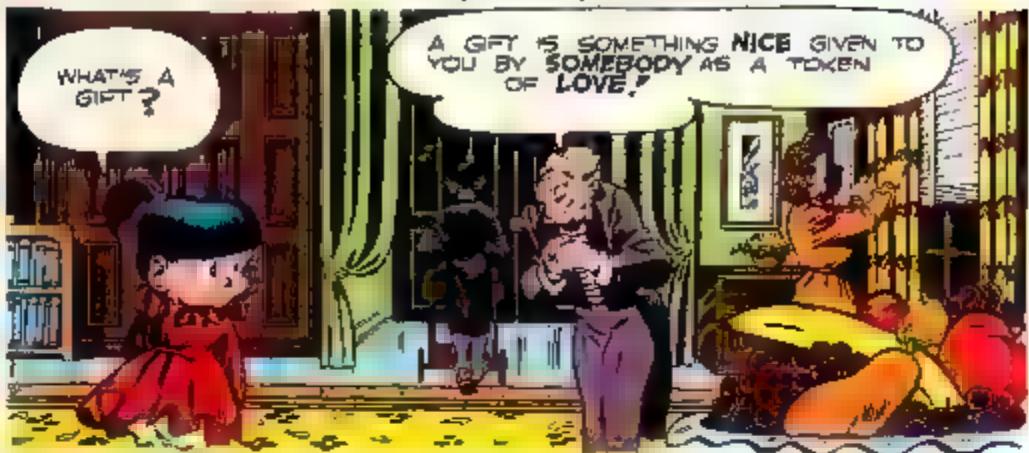
**B**ut she was so very rich and so very important that everybody would act as if they liked her.....



**S**he was a very happy little girl because she could have everything she wanted. All she had to do was buy it.... Then one day.....



**T**his puzzled the little girl. So she asked....



**T**his puzzled the little girl even more. Never had she gotten a gift from anybody, much less Santa Claus....



**S**o being a very determined little girl, she had a letter written....



**B**ut she received no answer. So she hired private detectives

SANTA CLAUS ALIAS CHRIS KRINGLE ALIAS ST NICHOLAS,  
REPUTEDLY HIDES OUT AT NORTH POLE ALWAYS  
DISGUISED BEHIND WHITE BEARD HAS MOB OF  
HRED ELVES, WORKS ONLY AT NIGHT,  
BREAKS AND ENTERS PRIVATE HOMES  
VIA CHIMNEY. THE SLENOFOOT  
AGENCY HAS APPREHENDED  
FIVE SUSPECTS, MISS O SHEA!

**A**nd so....

THEY'RE ALL FRAUDS!  
I WANT THE REAL  
ONE! DO YOU  
HEAR? GET HIM!

**B**ut try as they might, no one could locate Santa Claus....

IT'S DECEMBER 24<sup>th</sup>. WE JUST  
RECEIVED WORD FROM THE STATE  
LEGISLATURE THAT YOUR BILL TO  
OUTLAW SANTA CLAUS IS  
ECONOMICALLY UNSOUND  
AND HAS BEEN DEFEATED  
BY ONE VOTE!

SIGH:  
LOOKS  
LIKE YOU'LL  
BE THE  
ONLY ONE  
WITHOUT A  
GIFT AGAIN  
THIS YEAR!

NO! I WON'T  
BE CHEATED.  
IF I DON'T GET  
A GIFT, NOBODY  
SHALL!!

**T**he little girl called all her private police and all her armed guards and all her servants and everybody who worked for her.....



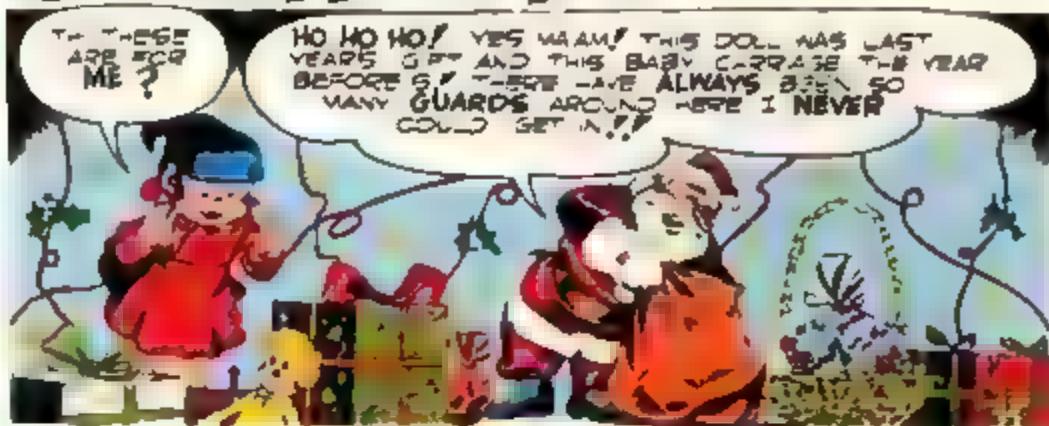
And that night, while the little children went to bed dreaming of all the nice gifts they would find in the morning, the little girl sat all alone in her big mansion...



**T**hen all of a sudden.....



**Y**es, it was Santa Claus, and out of his big bag he began removing gift after gift....



**D**ozens of toys and games he laid out till the room was bright with color and the big house bursting with laughter....



**A**nd for the first time in her life the little girl was crying...crying for joy. Then suddenly she remembered....



**W**ildly, the little girl ran from the house, tripping and falling into the huge snowdrifts. But still she kept on....

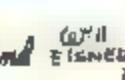


**T**he little girl danced for joy, then hurriedly she dismissed all her private police, all her armed guards and all her servants.....



**A**nd there was warmth in the damp cold city, and the rich little girl went home and felt a whole lot richer.



*A Merry Christmas from*  *and* 

WILL  
EISNER

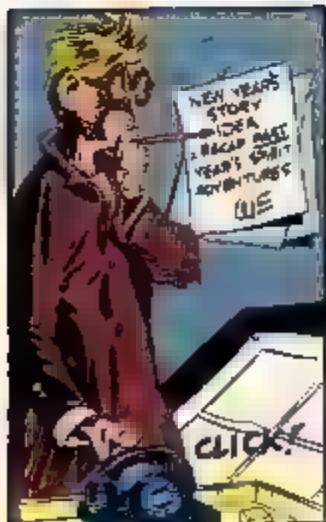


HAPPY NEW YEAR

December 31, 1960

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE





↑ CUT ON THIS LINE ↑



# THE SPIRIT

SUNDAY, DEC. 31, 1950

ACTION  
Mystery  
ADVENTURE

the

# CORRUPTION

I MUST BE THE  
SPIRIT AND I  
MUST NEVER  
CARRY A  
GUN! BUT  
STILL I MUST  
FIGHT CRIME  
BAREHANDED!  
NO OTHER CRIME-  
FIGHTER CAN  
MAKE THAT STUPID  
STATEMENT!

BLOOD  
BLOOD

CLACK CLACK CLACK CLACK

TICK TICK  
TICK TICK  
TICK TICK  
TICK TICK

BLUPP

BLUPP

BLUPP

IT IS NEW YEAR'S EVE  
AND I AM STANDING HERE  
IN THE RAIN, BUT THE  
PELTING DROPS ARE  
**MUTE** BESIDE THE  
ROAR OF THOUGHTS  
POUNDING IN  
MY SKULL!

THOUGHTS OF PAST ADVENTURES, PAST  
EXPERIENCES... AND PAST LOVES. YES, PAST  
LOVES SUCH AS **SAND SAREF**, WHO WAS  
MY CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART WHEN I WAS A  
CHILD, IN JANUARY. WE MET AGAIN, AND SHE  
WAS A CROOK....

SCRAM,  
DOG!

SOON... AT  
LAST I MEET  
THE NOTORIOUS  
**SAND SAREF**!

DON'T BE COY WITH  
ME SPIRIT! ALL THESE  
YEARS AND A MASK?  
DON'T FOOL ME!  
**DENNY COLT**!

BOOOOO

FLASH

YOU'VE  
GOT A  
LONG  
MEMORY,  
**SAND**.

OH  
SHUT UP  
WITH  
THE  
SHARP  
TALK  
AND HOLD  
ME...  
TIGHT,  
**DENNY**...  
TIKT...

THEN IN  
FEBRUARY I  
WENT TO EGYPT  
IN SEARCH OF  
THE FABULOUS  
**JEWEL OF GIZEH**!

I SAID  
GO 'WAY,  
**SCOOT**!

SNIFF  
SNIFF

IN MARCH I WAS TRAPPED ON THE  
FREIGHTER "ISLAND QUEEN" BY MY ARCH-  
ENEMY, **MR. CARRION**. I GOT BEAT UP...

WHY,  
LITTLE YOUNG  
A BOTTOM  
SHOT...  
**CARRION**...

I KILLED  
SCHOOL,  
I ONLY  
WANTED  
TO WOUND  
YOU!

YOU HAD A  
GUN ON YOU  
ALL THE TIME...  
I SURE WAS  
A TRUSTING  
PATSY!

NOW,  
MY DEAR  
SPIRIT...  
WHERE IS  
THE  
**JEWEL**  
OF  
**GIZEH**?

THEN IN APRIL I CAME HOME.  
THEN I BEAT UP SOME CROOKS,  
AND THEN I GOT INTO SOME  
INCOME TAX TROUBLE... BUT  
I GOT OUT OF IT!

SNIFF  
SNIFF

AWAY...  
AWAY, DOG,  
AWAY!

DROP  
DROP

IN MAY I GOT BEATEN UP. IN JUNE I  
WRESTLED AN ALLIGATOR. IN JULY I  
GOT STRANDED IN THE DESERT WITH A  
**KILLER** HANDCUFFED TO ME... I GOT  
BEAT UP...

YOU'LL MOVE,  
**KILLER**, IF  
I HAVE TO  
DRAG YOU  
EVERY INCH OF  
THE WAY!

MOVE?

MOVE?







FOR THOSE READERS WHO KEEP AN ANNUAL RECORD WE PRESENT AGAIN THIS YEAR

## VITAL STATISTICS ON **THE SPIRIT**

1950 SUMMARY

(GATHERED + PREPARED BY THE EISNER RESEARCH FOUNDATION)

number of crooks captured . . . . .	162
number of crooks who got away . . . . .	162
number of lives saved . . . . .	38
number of dead bodies discovered in hotel rooms after knocking on door, and finding it unlocked . . . . .	0
number of times <b>SPIRIT</b> was helplessly trapped with no possible escape . . . . .	22
number of times he escaped . . . . .	22
number of new female characters introduced . . . . .	6
number of times wounded . . . . .	5
number of times assaulted . . . . .	16
miscellaneous information---number of times trapped in desert, aboard sinking ship, on desert island, in snowbound house . . . . .	1
number of stories on flying saucers, martians, time machines etc . . . . .	MANY